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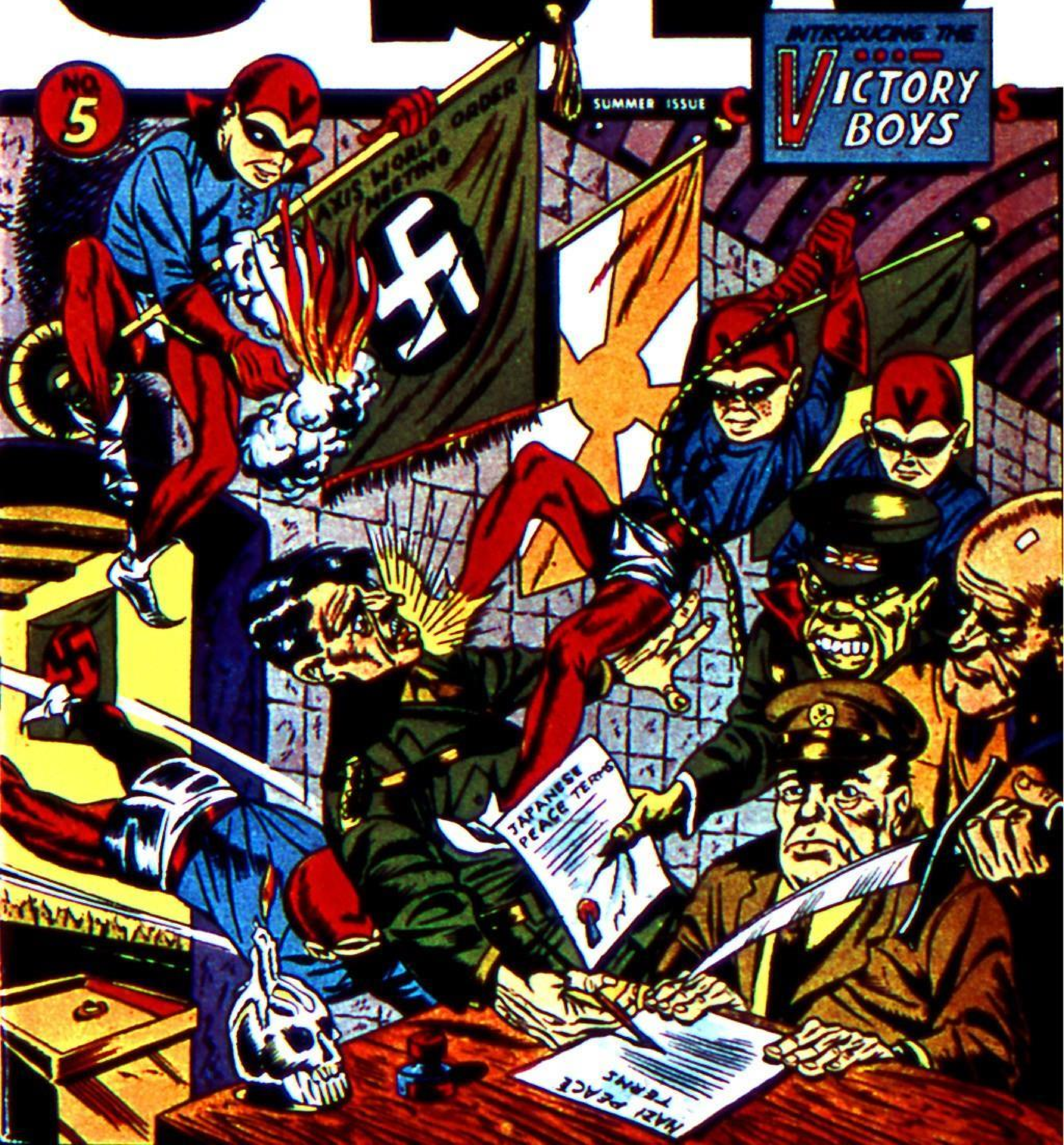
NO. 5

SUMMER ISSUE

INTRODUCING THE
VICTORY BOYS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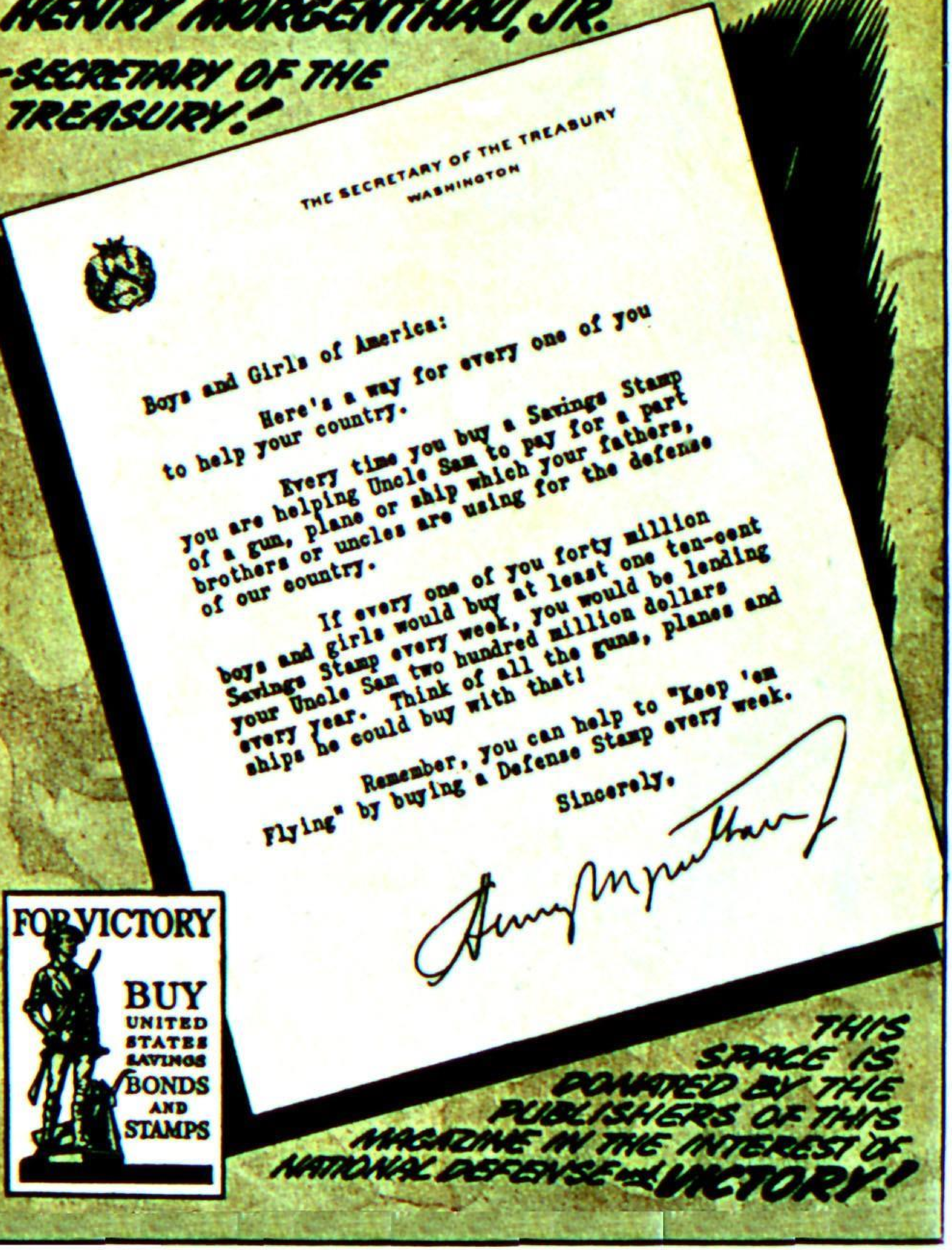
S
AXIS WORLD ORDER MEETING
JAPANESE PEACE TERMS
NAZI PEACE TERMS

A SPECIAL MESSAGE TO THE BOYS and GIRLS OF AMERICA FROM HENRY MORGENTHAU, JR. -SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY!



THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY
WASHINGTON

Boys and Girls of America:

Here's a way for every one of you to help your country.

Every time you buy a Savings Stamp you are helping Uncle Sam to pay for a part of a gun, plane or ship which your fathers, brothers or uncles are using for the defense of our country.

If every one of you forty million boys and girls would buy at least one ten-cent Savings Stamp every week, you would be lending your Uncle Sam two hundred million dollars every year. Think of all the guns, planes and ships he could buy with that!

Remember, you can help to "Keep 'em Flying" by buying a Defense Stamp every week.

Sincerely,

Henry Morgenthau Jr.

THIS SPACE IS DONATED BY THE PUBLISHERS OF THIS MAGAZINE IN THE INTEREST OF NATIONAL DEFENSE and VICTORY!

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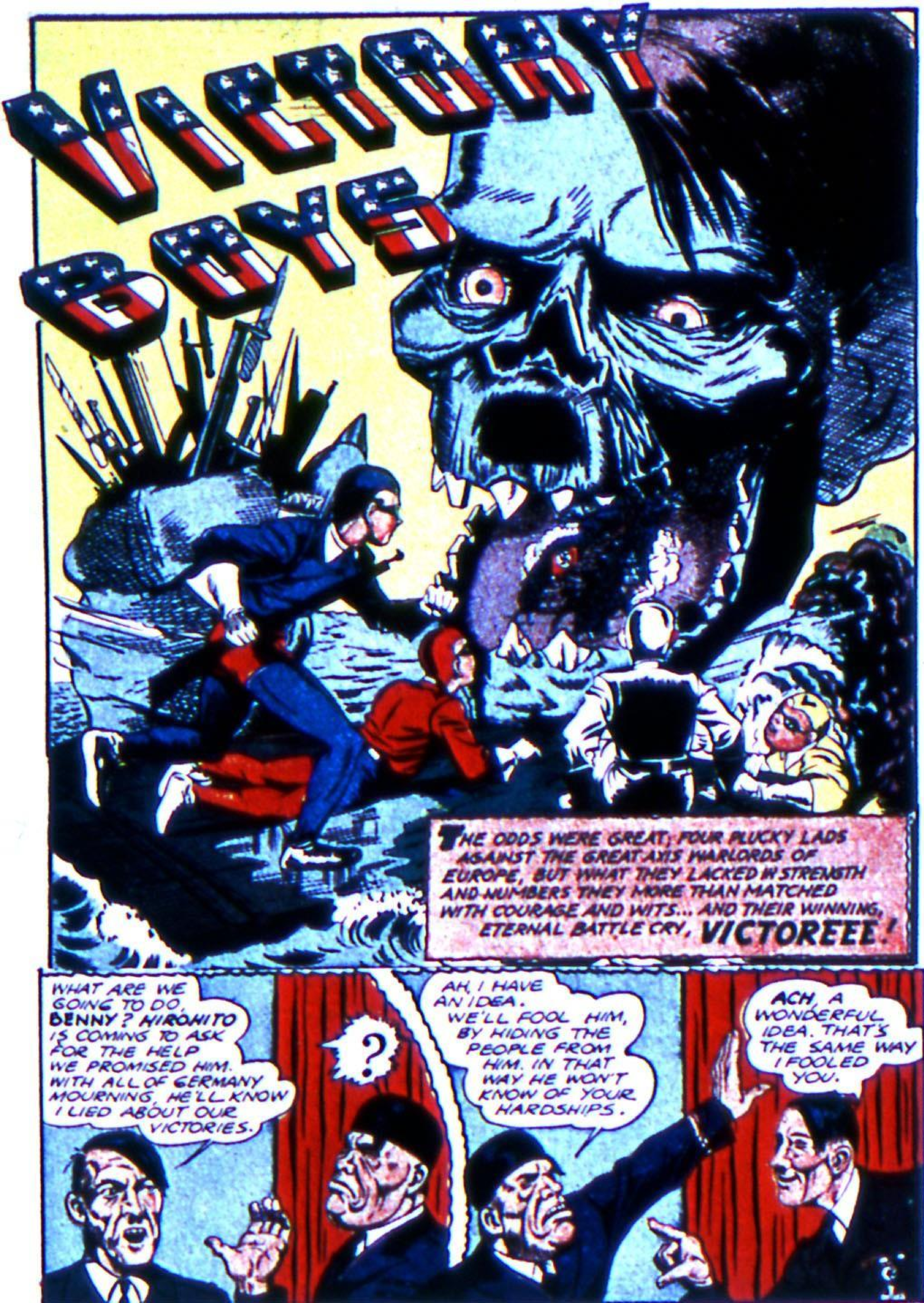
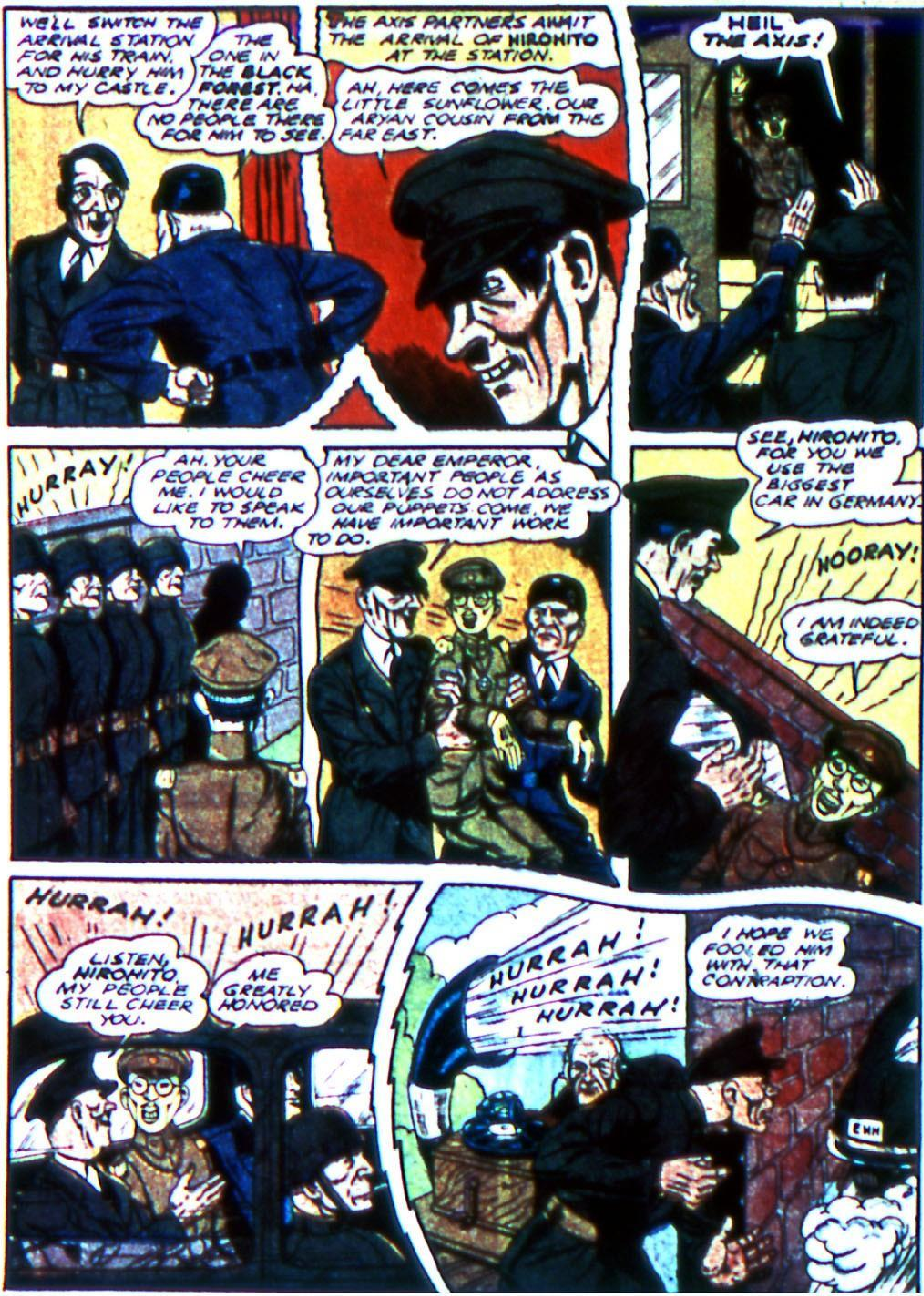
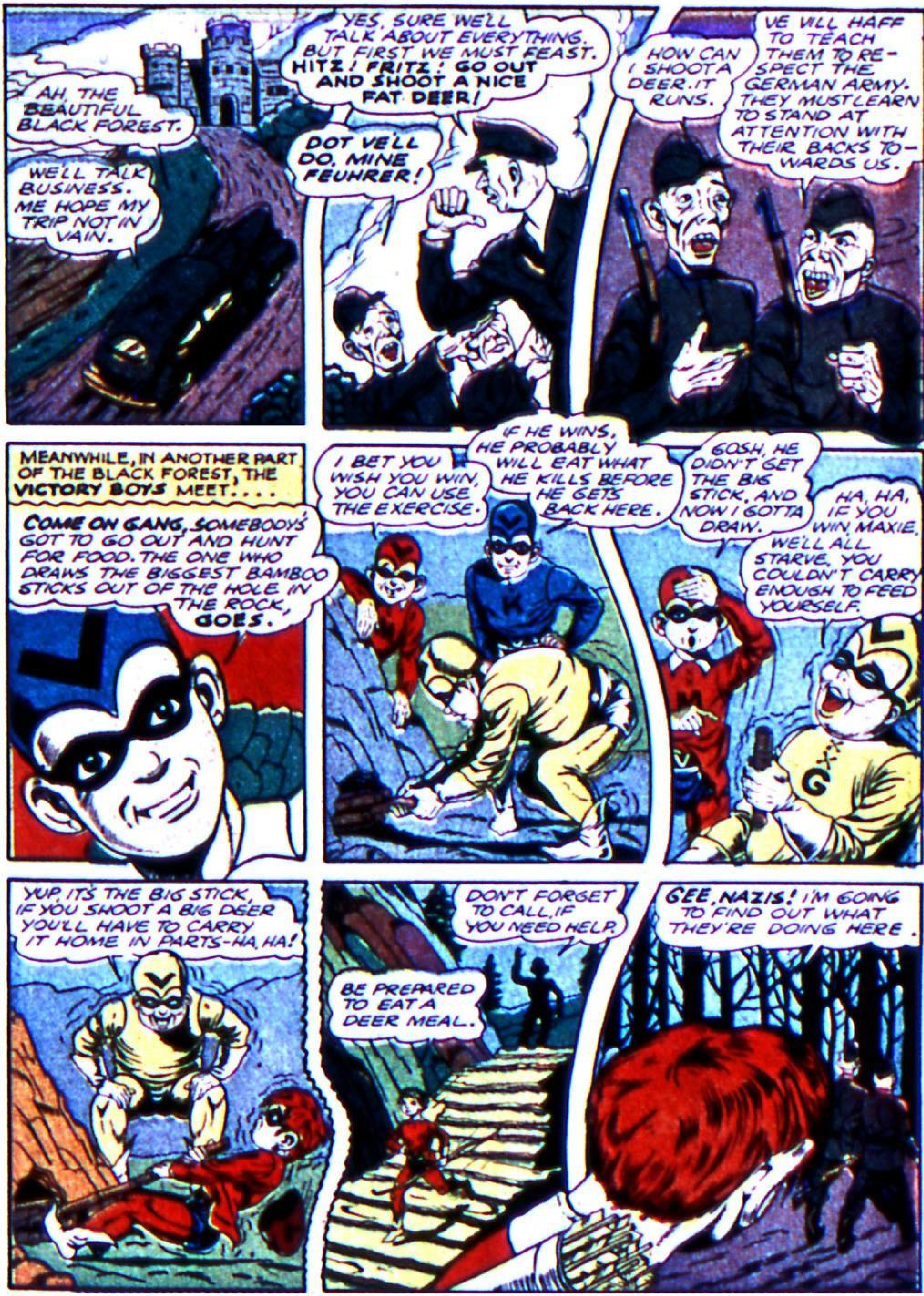
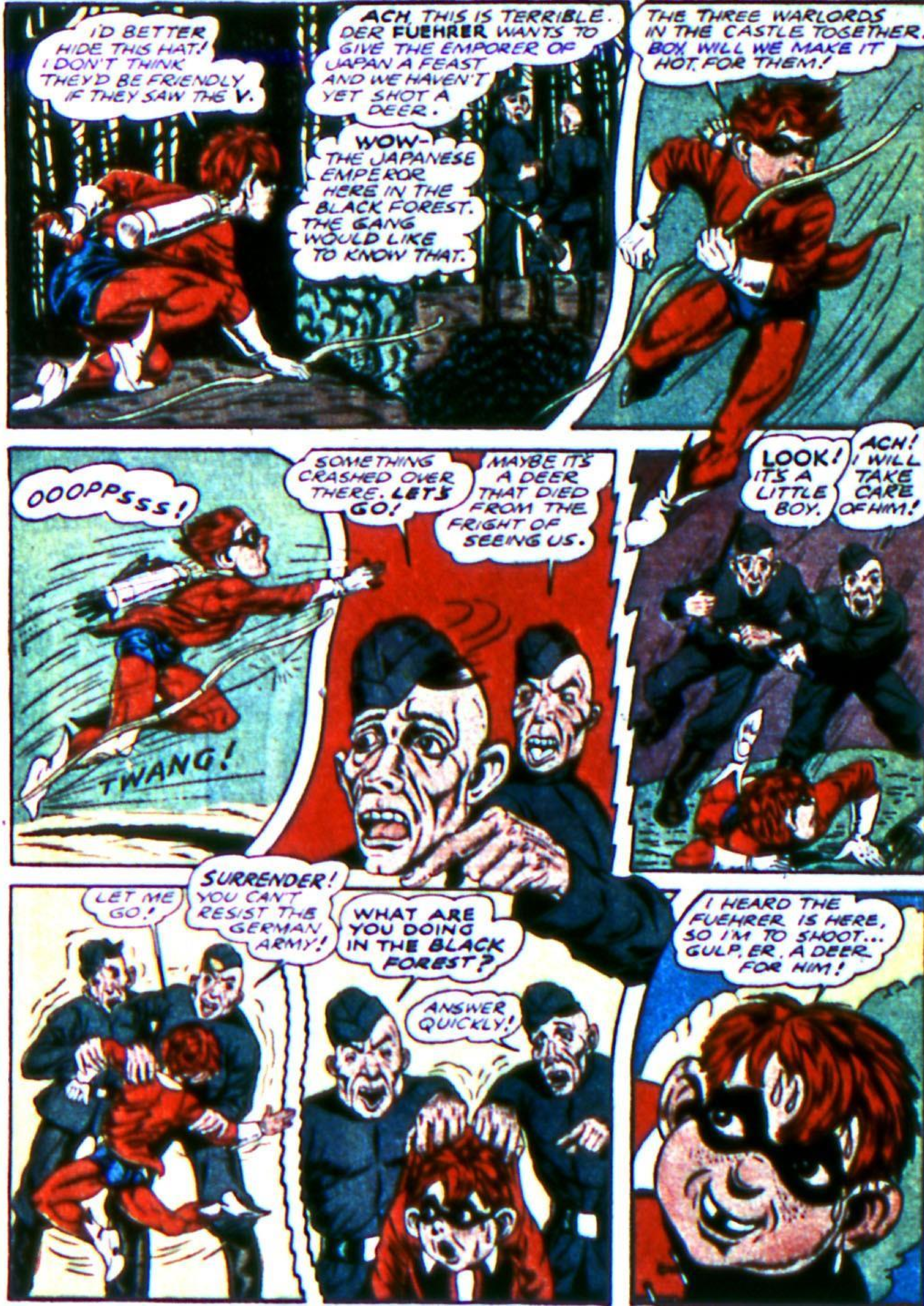
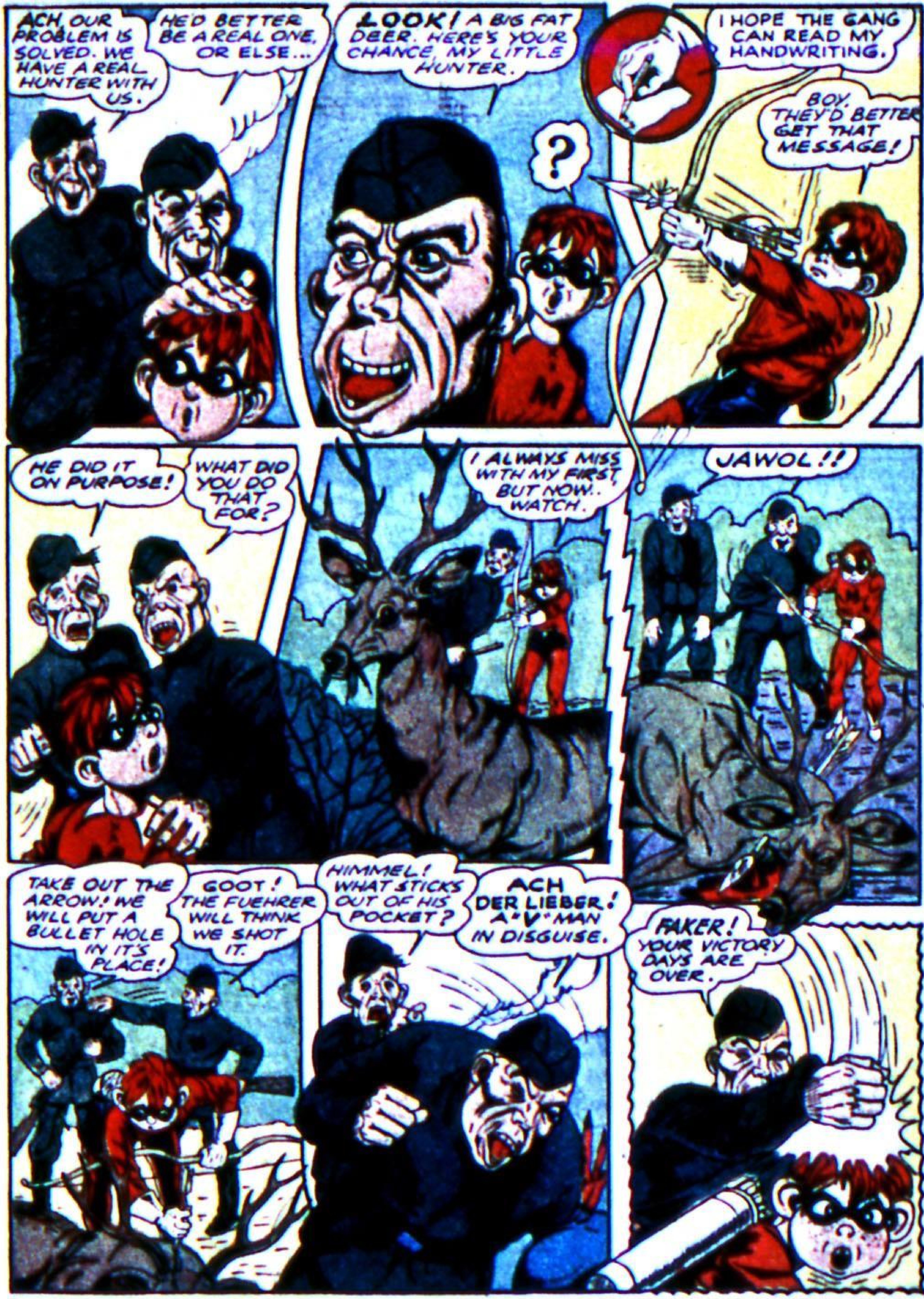
VICTORY BOYS

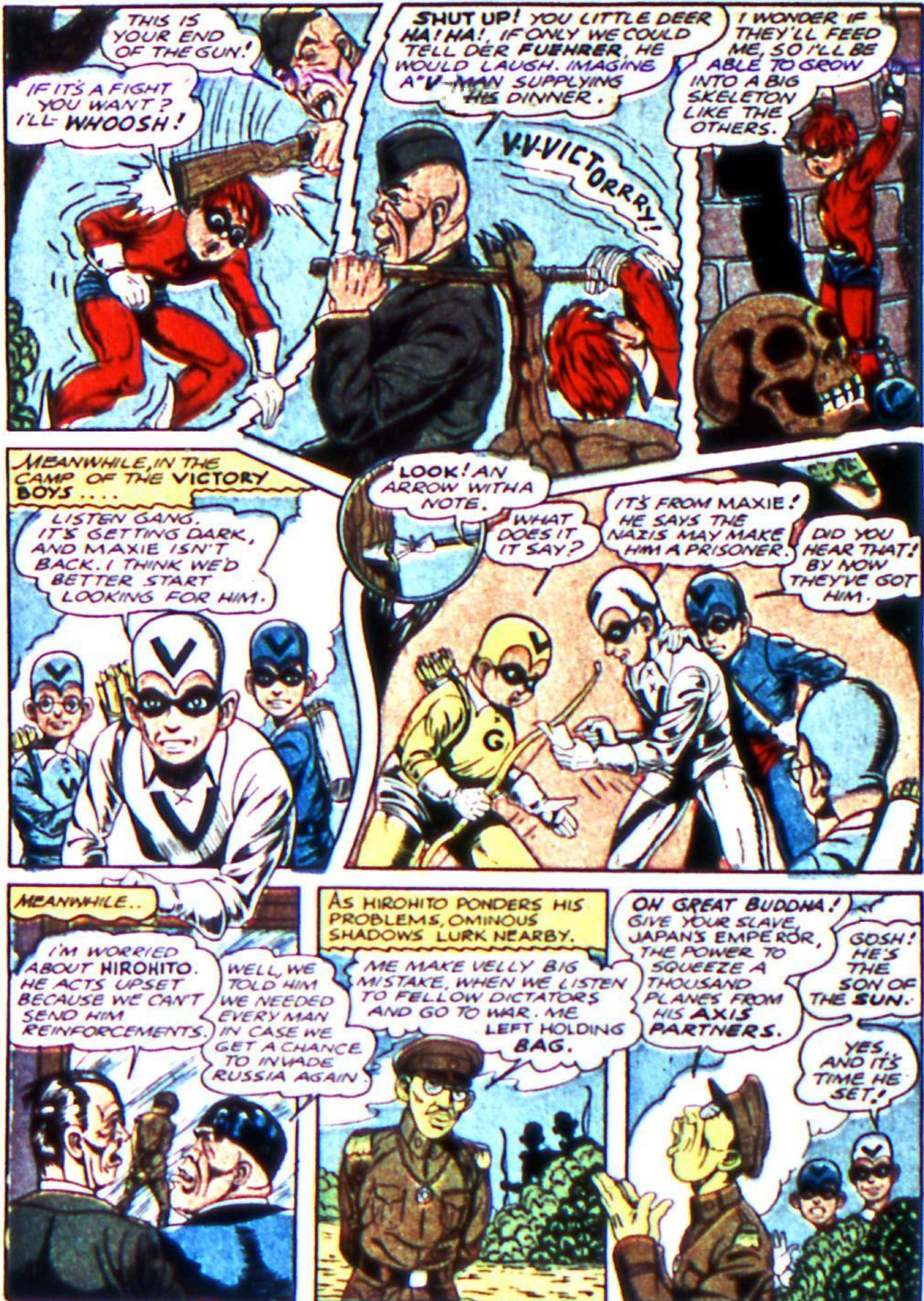

THE ODDS WERE GREAT; FOUR PLUCKY LADS AGAINST THE GREAT AXIS WARLORDS OF EUROPE, BUT WHAT THEY LACKED IN STRENGTH AND NUMBERS THEY MORE THAN MATCHED WITH COURAGE AND WITS... AND THEIR WINNING, ETERNAL BATTLE CRY, VICTOREEE!
WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO, BENNY? HIROHITO IS COMING TO ASK FOR THE HELP WE PROMISED HIM. WITH ALL OF GERMANY MOURNING, HE'LL KNOW I LIED ABOUT OUR VICTORIES.
?
AH, I HAVE AN IDEA. WE'LL FOOL HIM, BY HIDING THE PEOPLE FROM HIM. IN THAT WAY HE WON'T KNOW OF YOUR HARDSHIPS.
ACH, A WONDERFUL IDEA. THAT'S THE SAME WAY I FOOLED YOU.

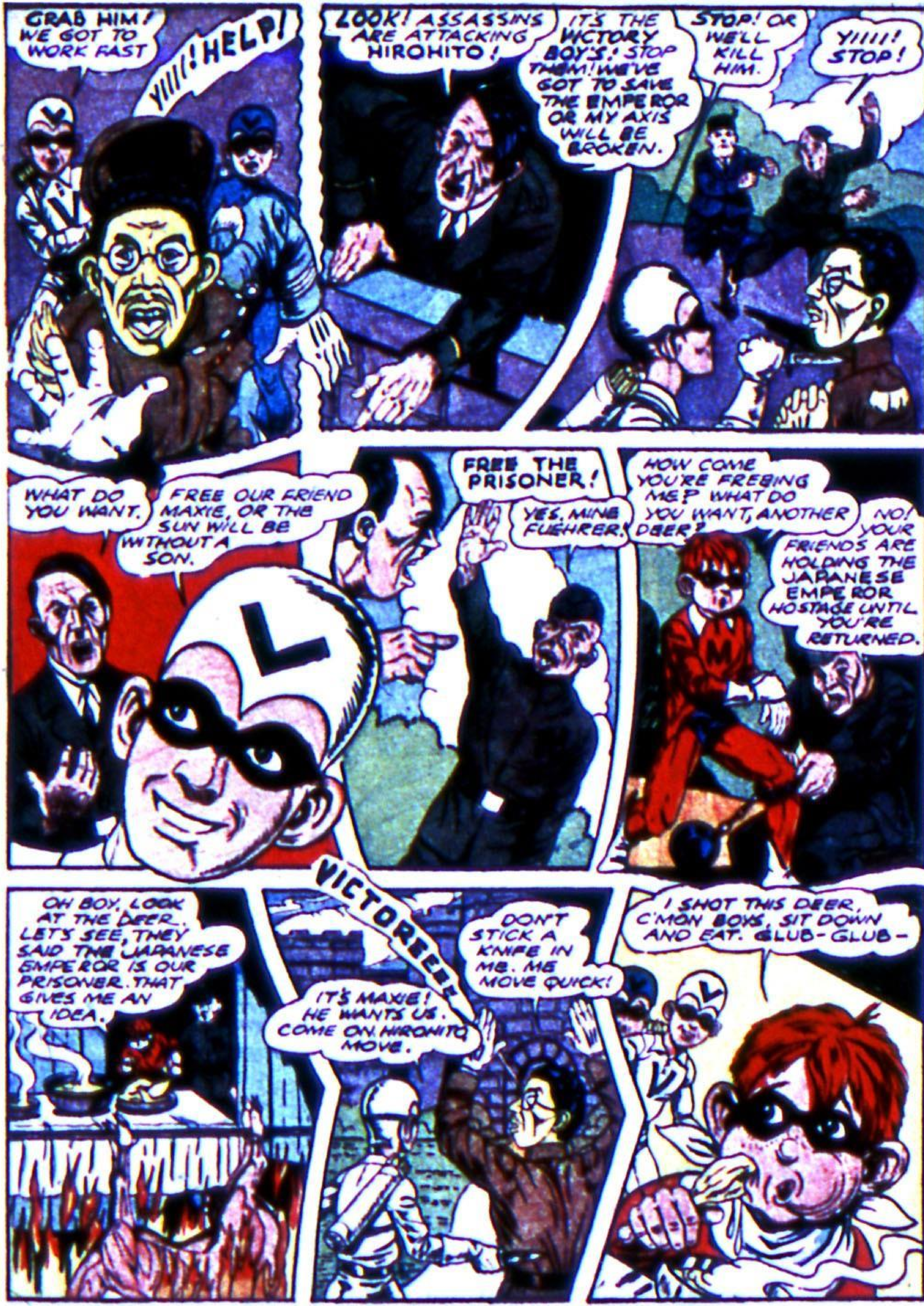

WE'LL SWITCH THE ARRIVAL STATION FOR HIS TRAIN, AND HURRY HIM TO MY CASTLE.
THE ONE IN THE BLACK FOREST. HA, THERE ARE NO PEOPLE THERE FOR HIM TO SEE.
THE AXIS PARTNERS AWAIT THE ARRIVAL OF HIROHITO AT THE STATION.
AH, HERE COMES THE LITTLE SUNFLOWER. OUR ARYAN COUSIN FROM THE FAR EAST.
HEIL THE AXIS!
HURRAY!
AH, YOUR PEOPLE CHEER ME. I WOULD LIKE TO SPEAK TO THEM.
MY DEAR EMPEROR, IMPORTANT PEOPLE AS OURSELVES DO NOT ADDRESS OUR PUPPETS. COME, WE HAVE IMPORTANT WORK TO DO.
SEE, HIROHITO, FOR YOU WE USE THE BIGGEST CAR IN GERMANY.
HOORAY!
I AM INDEED GRATEFUL.
HURRAH!
HURRAH!
LISTEN, HIROHITO, MY PEOPLE STILL CHEER YOU.
ME GREATLY HONORED
HURRAH! HURRAH! HURRAH!
I HOPE WE FOOLED HIM WITH THAT CONTRAPTION.
EMH

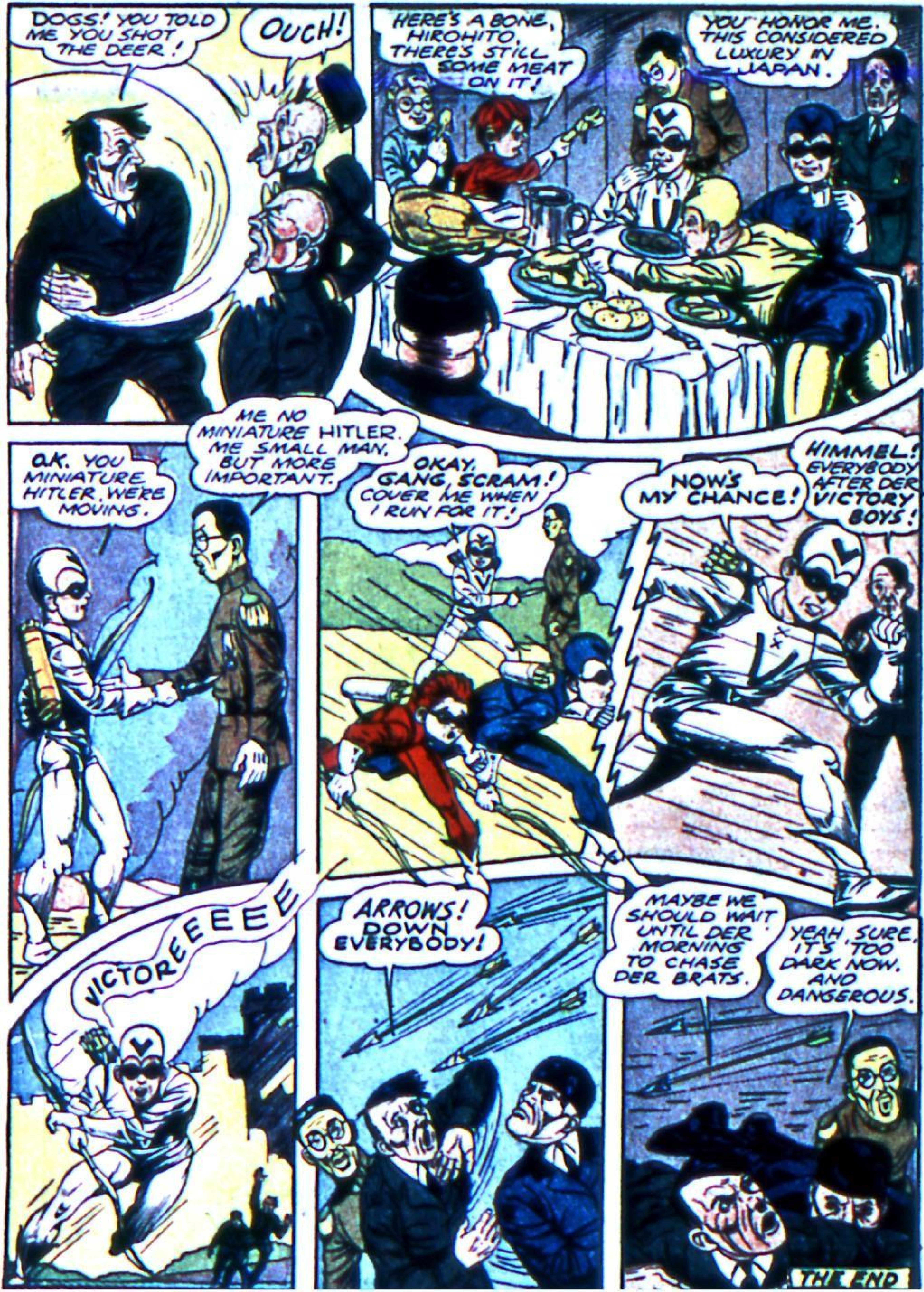

AH, THE BEAUTIFUL BLACK FOREST.
WE'LL TALK BUSINESS. ME HOPE MY TRIP NOT IN VAIN.
YES, SURE WE'LL TALK ABOUT EVERYTHING. BUT FIRST WE MUST FEAST. HITZ! FRITZ! GO OUT AND SHOOT A NICE FAT DEER!
DOT VE'LL DO, MINE FEUHRER!
HOW CAN I SHOOT A DEER. IT RUNS.
VE VILL HAFF TO TEACH THEM TO RESPECT THE GERMAN ARMY. THEY MUST LEARN TO STAND AT ATTENTION WITH THEIR BACKS TOWARDS US.
MEANWHILE, IN ANOTHER PART OF THE BLACK FOREST, THE VICTORY BOYS MEET....
COME ON GANG, SOMEBODY'S GOT TO GO OUT AND HUNT FOR FOOD. THE ONE WHO DRAWS THE BIGGEST BAMBOO STICKS OUT OF THE HOLE IN THE ROCK, GOES.
I BET YOU WISH YOU WIN, YOU CAN USE THE EXERCISE.
IF HE WINS, HE PROBABLY WILL EAT WHAT HE KILLS BEFORE HE GETS BACK HERE.
GOSH, HE DIDN'T GET THE BIG STICK, AND NOW I GOTTA DRAW.
HA, HA, IF YOU WIN, MAXIE, WE'LL ALL STARVE, YOU COULDN'T CARRY ENOUGH TO FEED YOURSELF.
YUP, ITS THE BIG STICK, IF YOU SHOOT A BIG DEER YOU'LL HAVE TO CARRY IT HOME IN PARTS-HA, HA!
DON'T FORGET TO CALL, IF YOU NEED HELP.
BE PREPARED TO EAT A DEER MEAL.
GEE, NAZIS! I'M GOING TO FIND OUT WHAT THEY'RE DOING HERE.


I'D BETTER HIDE THIS HAT! I DON'T THINK THEY'D BE FRIENDLY IF THEY SAW THE **V.**
ACH, THIS IS TERRIBLE. DER **FUEHRER** WANTS TO GIVE THE EMPORER OF JAPAN A FEAST AND WE HAVEN'T YET SHOT A DEER.
WOW— THE JAPANESE EMPEROR HERE IN THE BLACK FOREST. THE GANG WOULD LIKE TO KNOW THAT.
THE THREE WARLORDS IN THE CASTLE TOGETHER. *BOY, WILL WE MAKE IT HOT FOR THEM!*
OOOPPSSS!
TWANG!
SOMETHING CRASHED OVER THERE. **LET'S GO!**
MAYBE IT'S A DEER THAT DIED FROM THE FRIGHT OF SEEING US.
LOOK! IT'S A LITTLE BOY.
ACH! I WILL TAKE CARE OF HIM!
LET ME GO!
SURRENDER! YOU CAN'T RESIST THE GERMAN ARMY!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING IN THE *BLACK FOREST?*
ANSWER QUICKLY!
I HEARD THE FUEHRER IS HERE, SO I'M TO SHOOT... GULP, ER, A DEER FOR HIM!

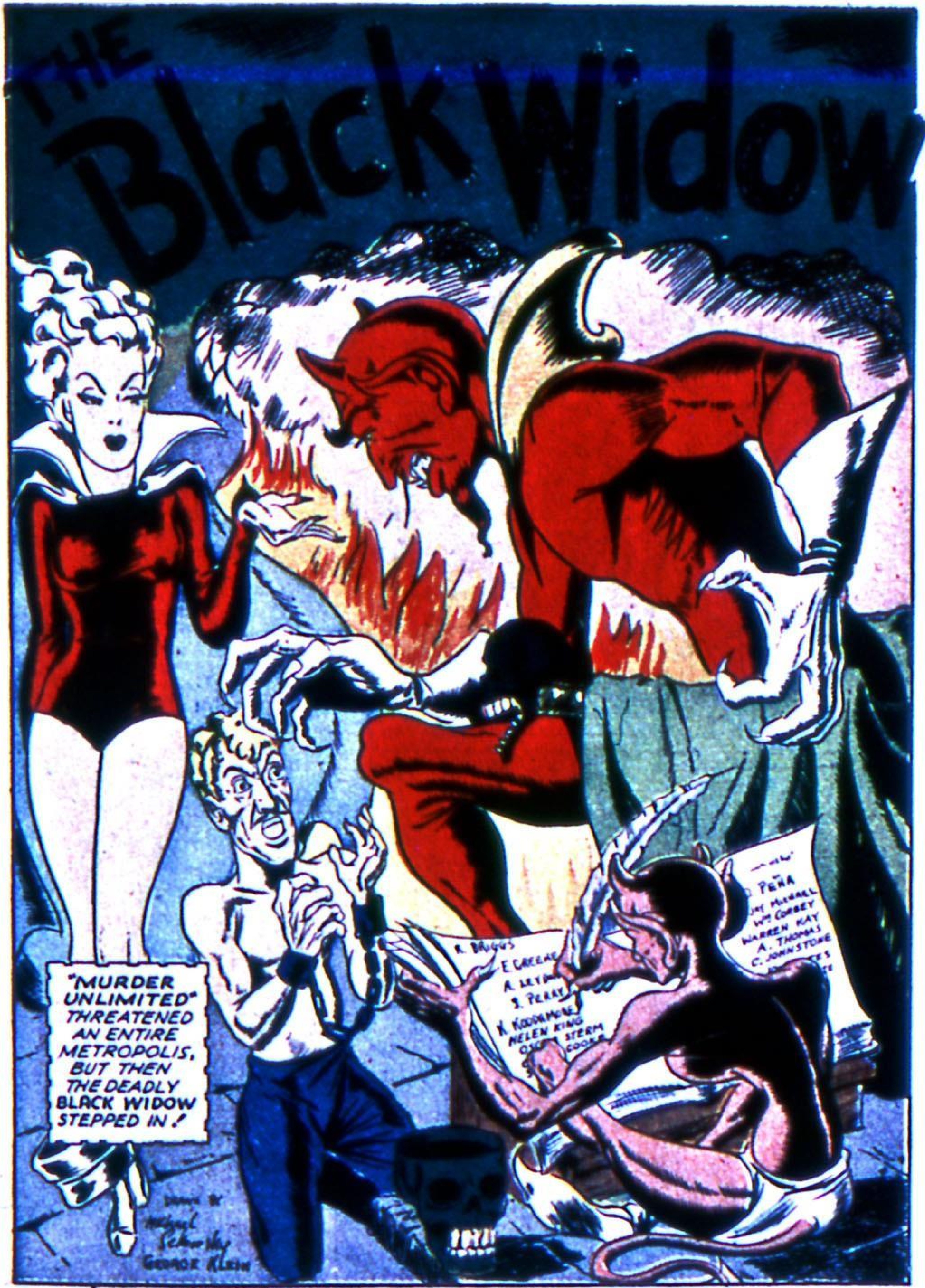

ACH, OUR PROBLEM IS SOLVED. WE HAVE A REAL HUNTER WITH US.
HE'D BETTER BE A REAL ONE, OR ELSE...
LOOK! A BIG FAT DEER. HERE'S YOUR CHANCE MY LITTLE HUNTER.
?
I HOPE THE GANG CAN READ MY HANDWRITING.
BOY, THEY'D BETTER GET THAT MESSAGE!
HE DID IT ON PURPOSE!
WHAT DID YOU DO THAT FOR?
I ALWAYS MISS WITH MY FIRST BUT NOW.. WATCH.
JAWOL!!
TAKE OUT THE ARROW! WE WILL PUT A BULLET HOLE IN IT'S PLACE!
GOOT! THE FUEHRER WILL THINK WE SHOT IT.
HIMMEL! WHAT STICKS OUT OF HIS POCKET?
ACH DER LIEBER! A "V" MAN IN DISGUISE.
FAKER! YOUR VICTORY DAYS ARE OVER.


THIS IS YOUR END OF THE GUN!
IF IT'S A FIGHT YOU WANT? I'LL- WHOOSH!
SHUT UP! YOU LITTLE DEER HA! HA! IF ONLY WE COULD TELL DER FUEHRER, HE WOULD LAUGH. IMAGINE A "V"-MAN SUPPLYING HIS DINNER.
V-V-VICTORRRY!
I WONDER IF THEY'LL FEED ME, SO I'LL BE ABLE TO GROW INTO A BIG SKELETON LIKE THE OTHERS.
MEANWHILE, IN THE CAMP OF THE VICTORY BOYS....
LISTEN GANG. IT'S GETTING DARK, AND MAXIE ISN'T BACK. I THINK WE'D BETTER START LOOKING FOR HIM.
LOOK! AN ARROW WITH A NOTE.
WHAT DOES IT IT SAY?
IT'S FROM MAXIE! HE SAYS THE NAZIS MAY MAKE HIM A PRISONER.
DID YOU HEAR THAT! BY NOW THEY'VE GOT HIM.
MEANWHILE..
I'M WORRIED ABOUT HIROHITO. HE ACTS UPSET BECAUSE WE CAN'T SEND HIM REINFORCEMENTS.
WELL, WE TOLD HIM WE NEEDED EVERY MAN IN CASE WE GET A CHANCE TO INVADE RUSSIA AGAIN.
AS HIROHITO PONDERS HIS PROBLEMS, OMINOUS SHADOWS LURK NEARBY.
ME MAKE VELLY BIG MISTAKE, WHEN WE LISTEN TO FELLOW DICTATORS AND GO TO WAR. ME LEFT HOLDING BAG.
OH GREAT BUDDHA! GIVE YOUR SLAVE, JAPAN'S EMPEROR, THE POWER TO SQUEEZE A THOUSAND PLANES FROM HIS AXIS PARTNERS.
GOSH! HE'S THE SON OF THE SUN.
YES, AND IT'S TIME HE SET!


GRAB HIM! WE GOT TO WORK FAST
YIIII! HELP!
LOOK! ASSASSINS ARE ATTACKING HIROHITO!
IT'S THE VICTORY BOY'S! STOP THEM! WE'VE GOT TO SAVE THE EMPEROR OR MY AXIS WILL BE BROKEN.
STOP! OR WE'LL KILL HIM.
YIIII! STOP!
WHAT DO YOU WANT.
FREE OUR FRIEND MAXIE, OR THE SUN WILL BE WITHOUT A SON.
FREE THE PRISONER!
YES, MINE FUEHRER.
HOW COME YOU'RE FREEING ME? WHAT DO YOU WANT, ANOTHER DEER?
NO! YOUR FRIENDS ARE HOLDING THE JAPANESE EMPEROR HOSTAGE UNTIL YOU'RE RETURNED.
OH BOY, LOOK AT THE DEER. LET'S SEE, THEY SAID THE JAPANESE EMPEROR IS OUR PRISONER. THAT GIVES ME AN IDEA.
VICTOREEEE
IT'S MAXIE! HE WANTS US. COME ON HIROHITO MOVE.
DON'T STICK A KNIFE IN ME. ME MOVE QUICK!
I SHOT THIS DEER. C'MON BOYS, SIT DOWN AND EAT. GLUB-GLUB-

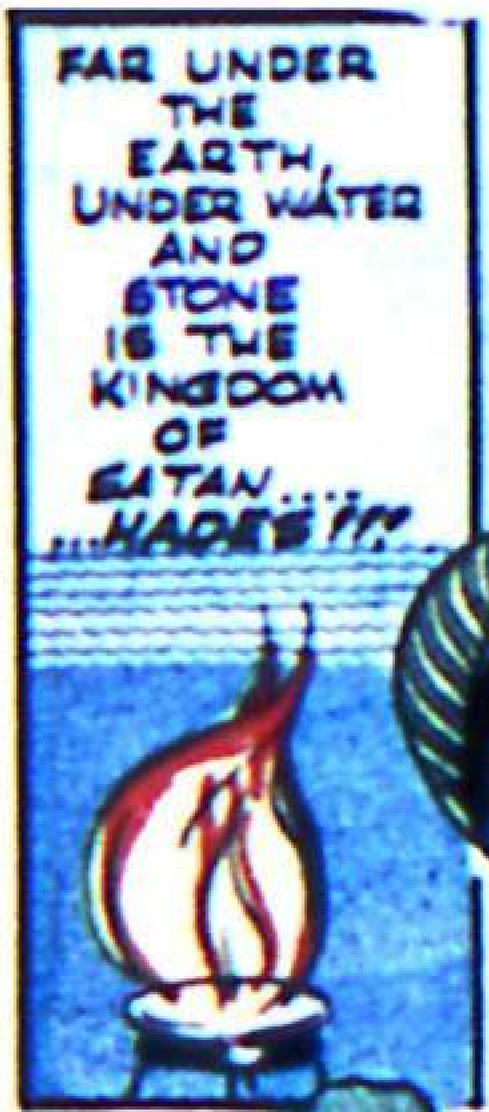

DOGS! YOU TOLD ME YOU SHOT THE DEER!
OUCH!
HERE'S A BONE, HIROHITO, THERE'S STILL SOME MEAT ON IT!
YOU HONOR ME. THIS CONSIDERED LUXURY IN JAPAN.
O.K. YOU MINIATURE HITLER, WE'RE MOVING.
ME NO MINIATURE HITLER. ME SMALL MAN, BUT MORE IMPORTANT.
OKAY, GANG, SCRAM! COVER ME WHEN I RUN FOR IT!
NOW'S MY CHANCE!
HIMMEL! EVERYBODY AFTER DER VICTORY BOYS!
VICTOREEEEEE
ARROWS! DOWN EVERYBODY!
MAYBE WE SHOULD WAIT UNTIL DER MORNING TO CHASE DER BRATS.
YEAH, SURE, IT'S TOO DARK NOW. AND DANGEROUS.
THE END

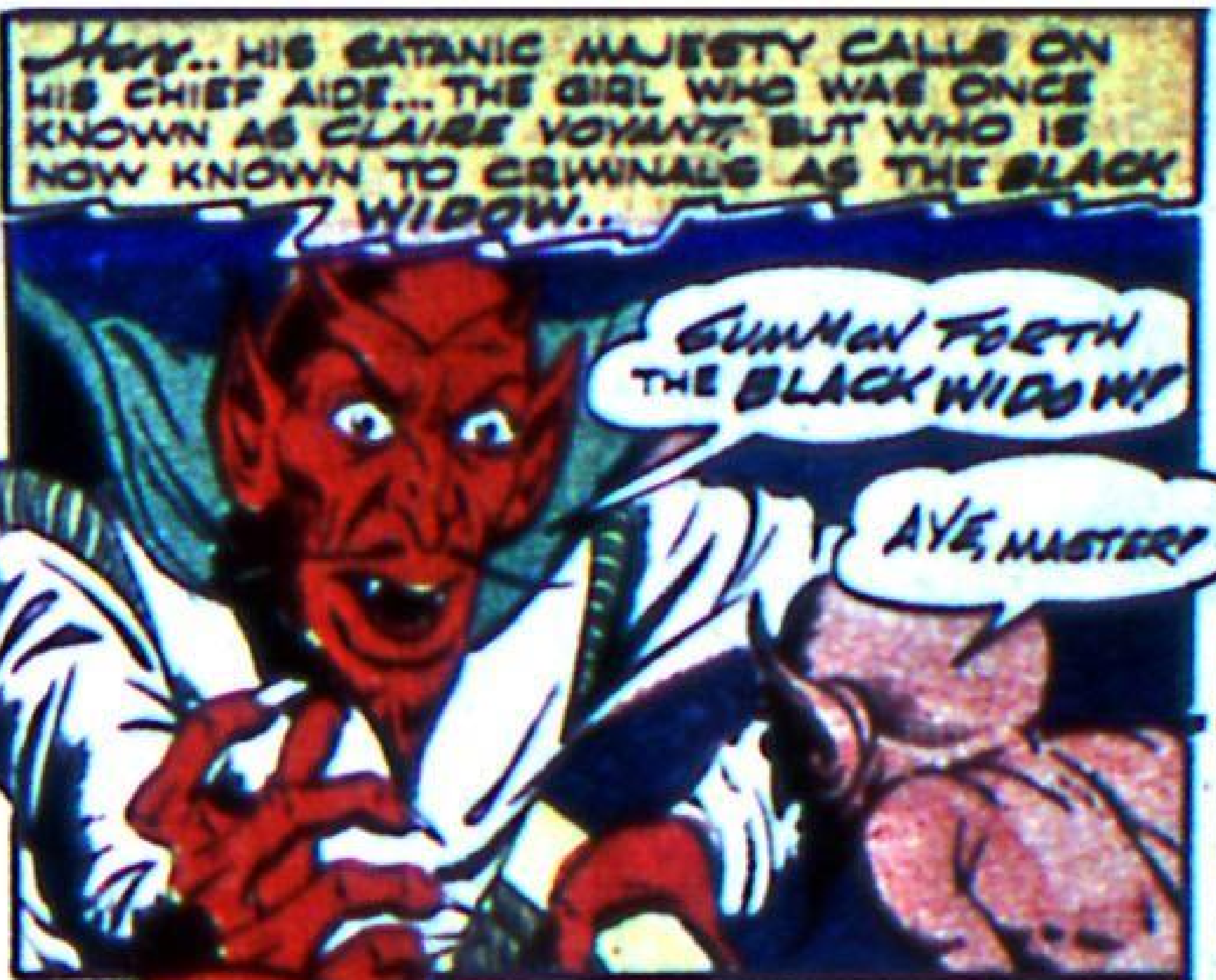
THE Black Widow

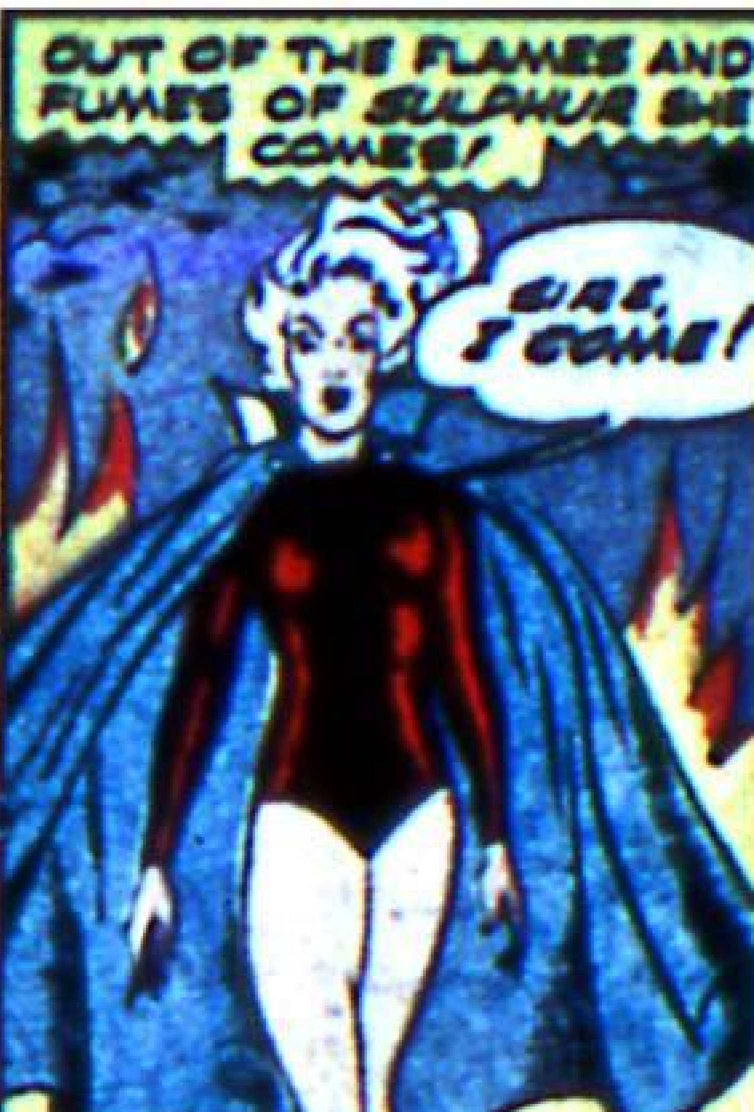


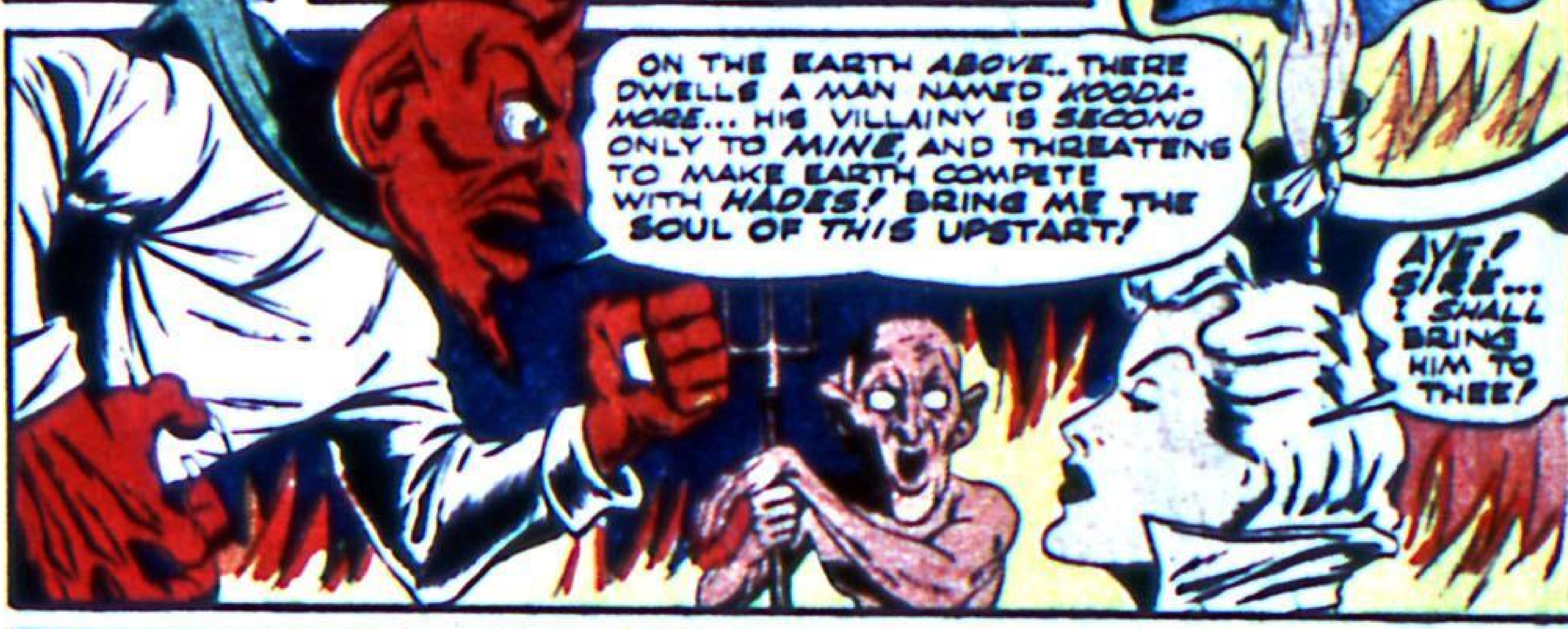
"MURDER UNLIMITED" THREATENED AN ENTIRE METROPOLIS, BUT THEN THE DEADLY BLACK WIDOW STEPPED IN!

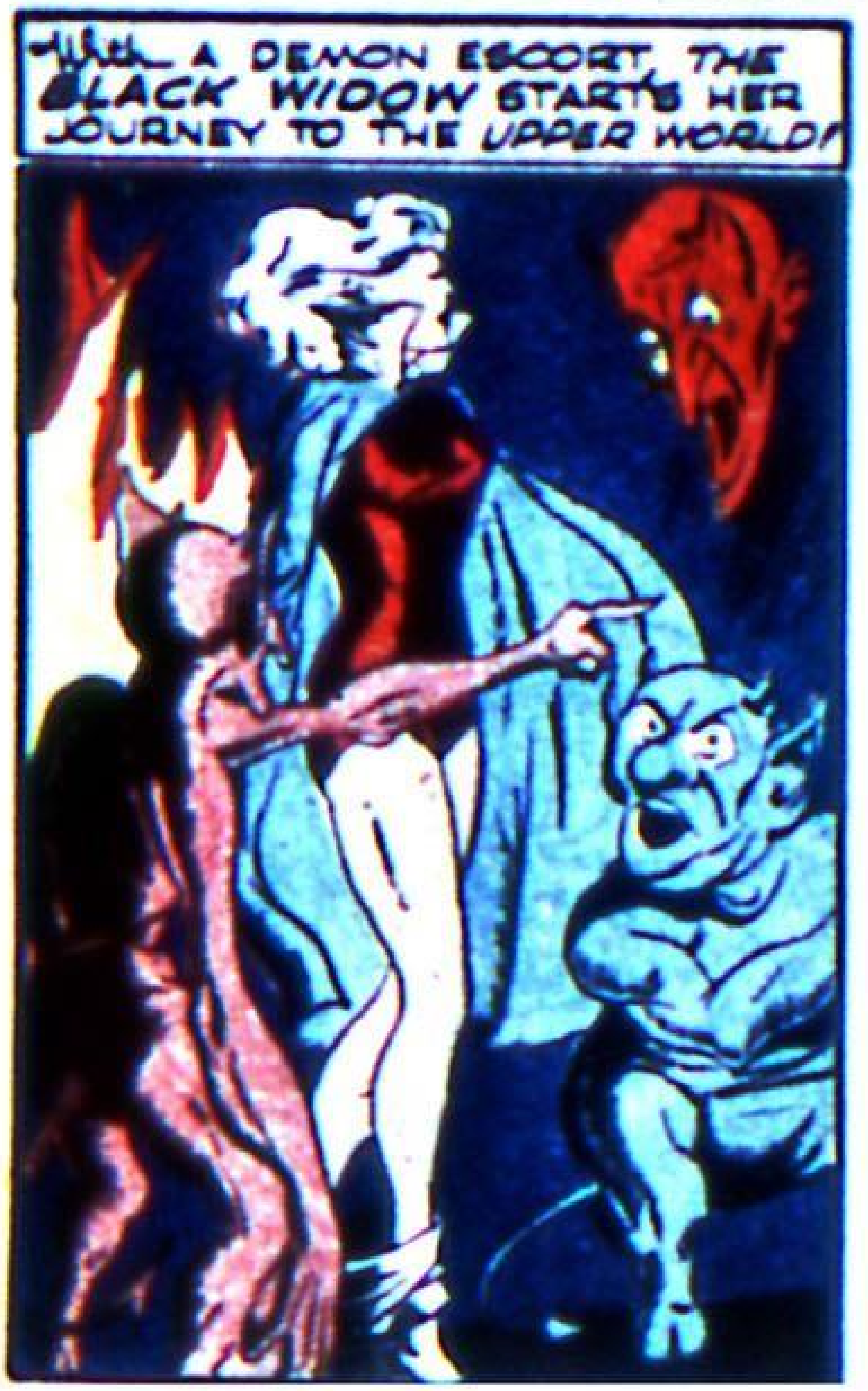
R. BRIGGS
E. GREENE
A. LEYD
S. PERRY
K. KOODAMORE
HELEN KING
OSCAR STERM
COOKE
D. PEÑA
JAY MICHAEL
WM CORBEY
WARREN KAY
A. THOMAS
C. JOHNSTONE
Drawn by
Michael Sekowsky
George Klein

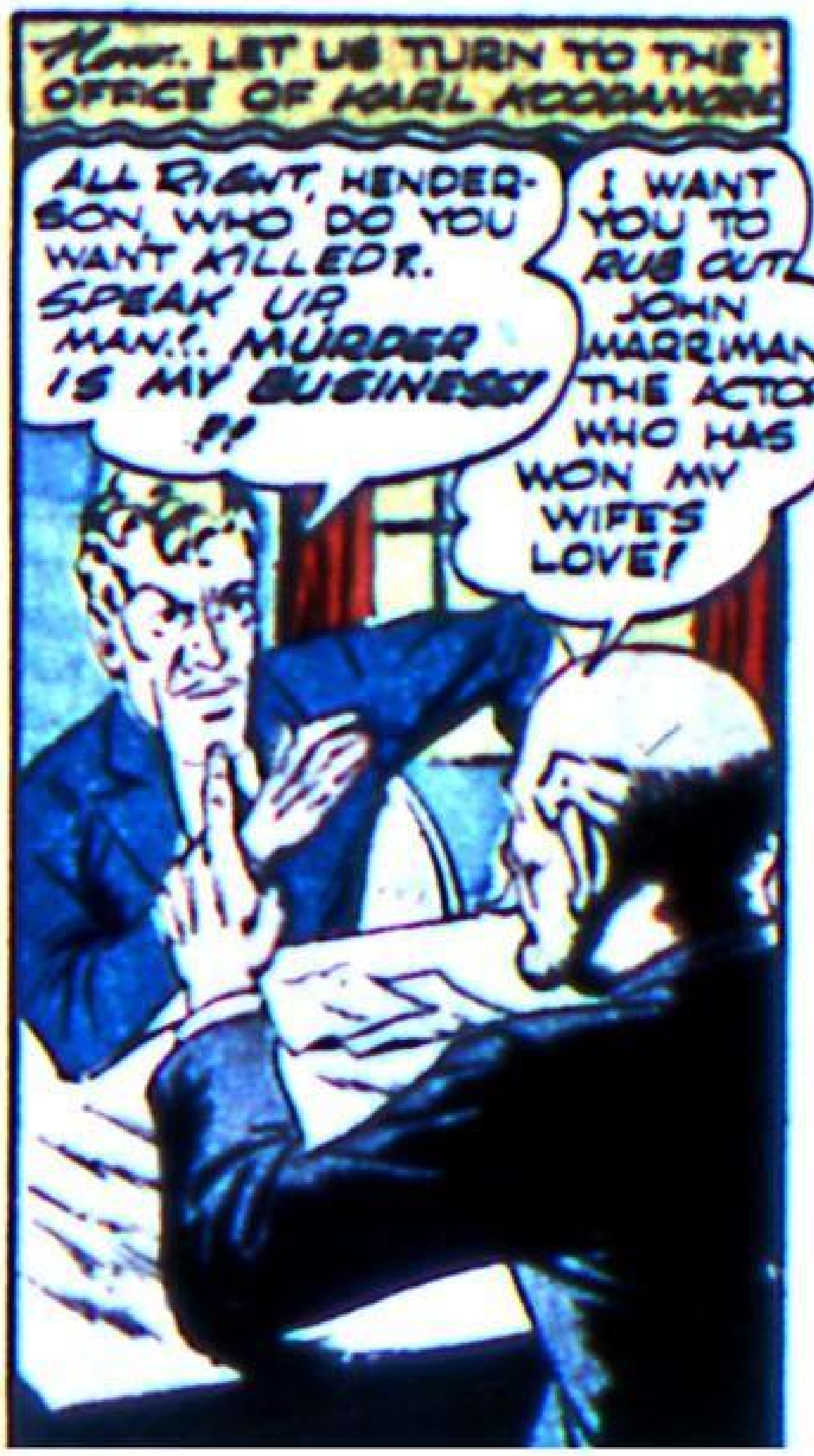

FAR UNDER THE EARTH, UNDER WATER AND STONE IS THE KINGDOM OF SATAN.... ..HADES!!

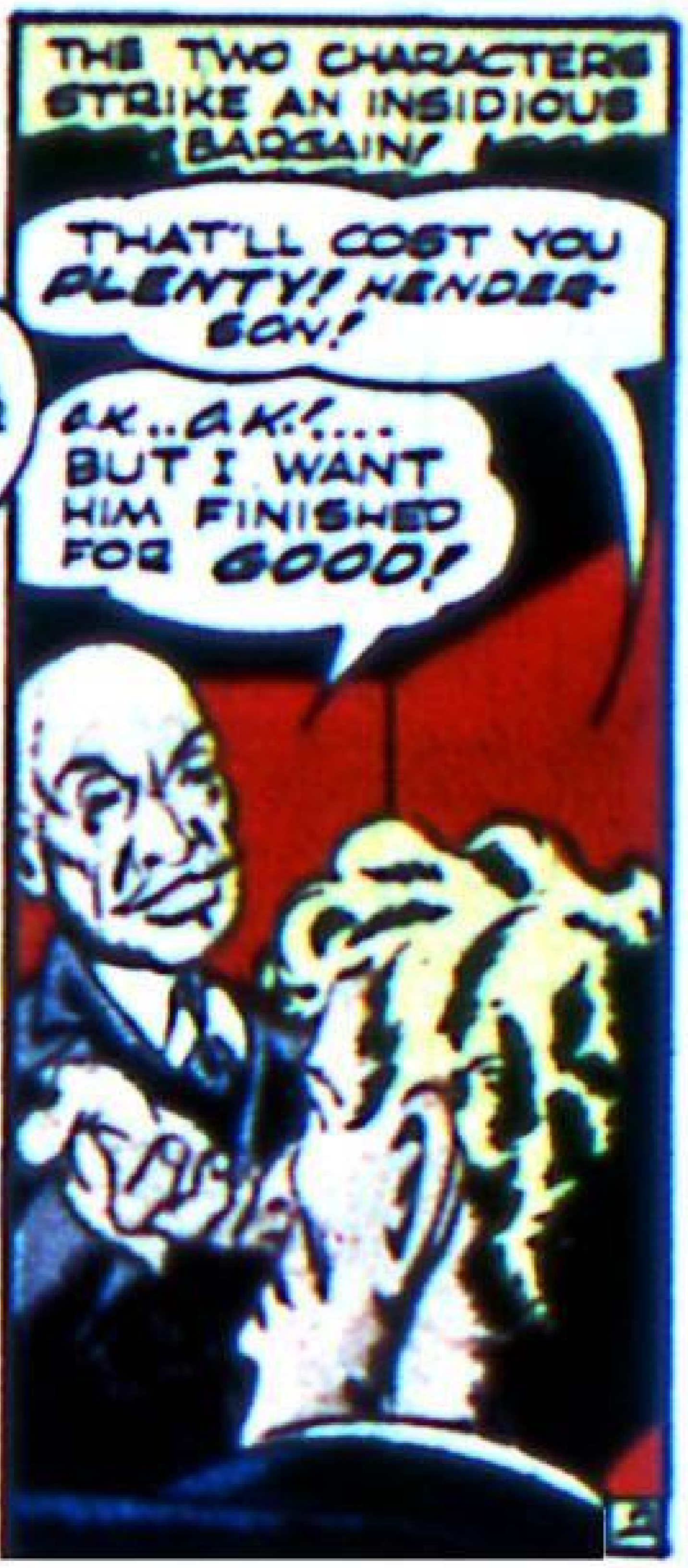

Now.. HIS SATANIC MAJESTY CALLS ON HIS CHIEF AIDE... THE GIRL WHO WAS ONCE KNOWN AS CLAIRE VOYANT, BUT WHO IS NOW KNOWN TO CRIMINALS AS THE BLACK WIDOW..
SUMMON FORTH THE BLACK WIDOW!!
AYE, MASTER!

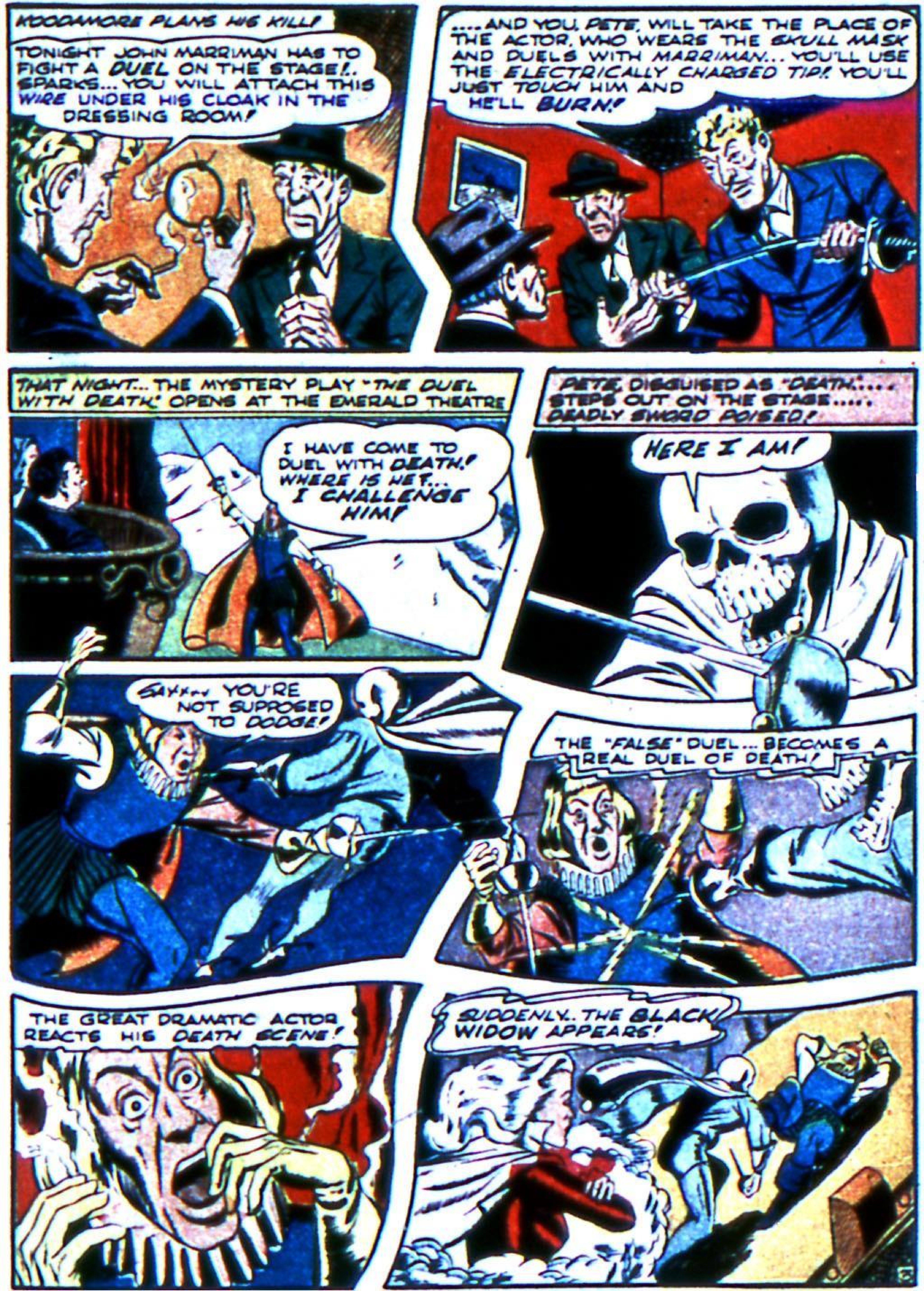

OUT OF THE FLAMES AND FUMES OF SULPHUR SHE COMES!
SIRE, I COME!

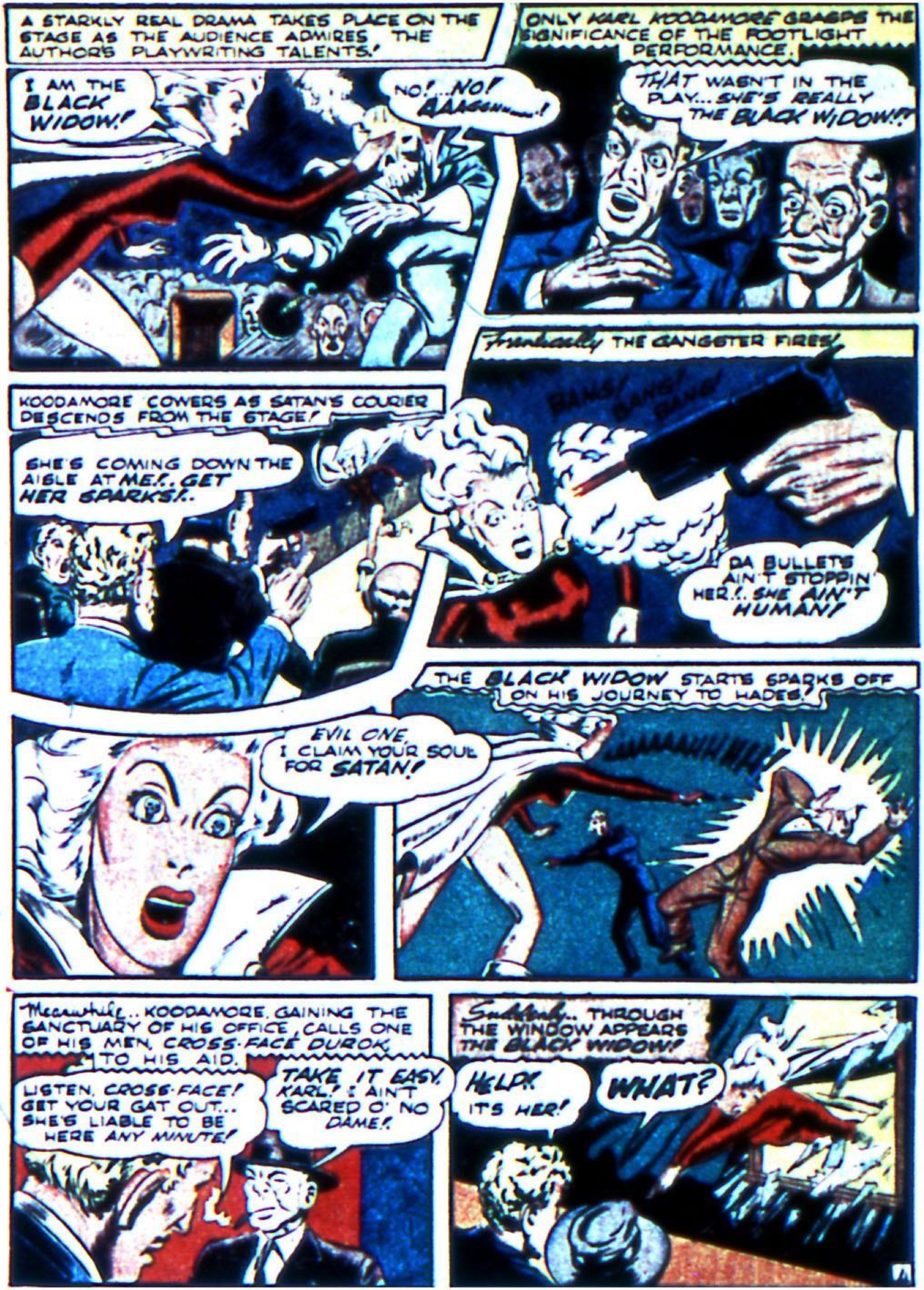

ON THE EARTH ABOVE.. THERE DWELLS A MAN NAMED KOODAMORE... HIS VILLAINY IS SECOND ONLY TO MINE, AND THREATENS TO MAKE EARTH COMPETE WITH HADES! BRING ME THE SOUL OF THIS UPSTART!
AYE! SIRE... I SHALL BRING HIM TO THEE!

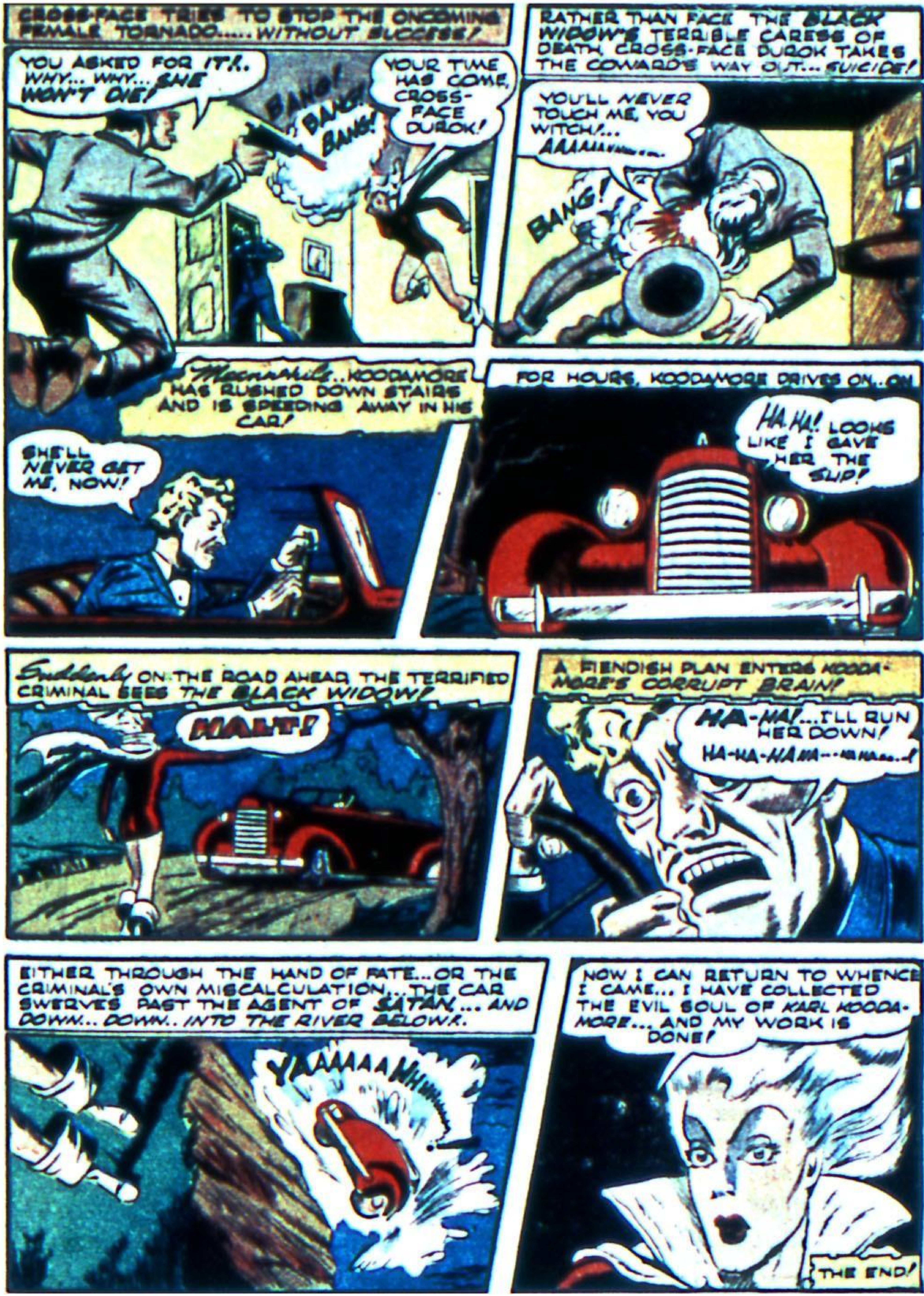

With A DEMON ESCORT, THE BLACK WIDOW STARTS HER JOURNEY TO THE UPPER WORLD!

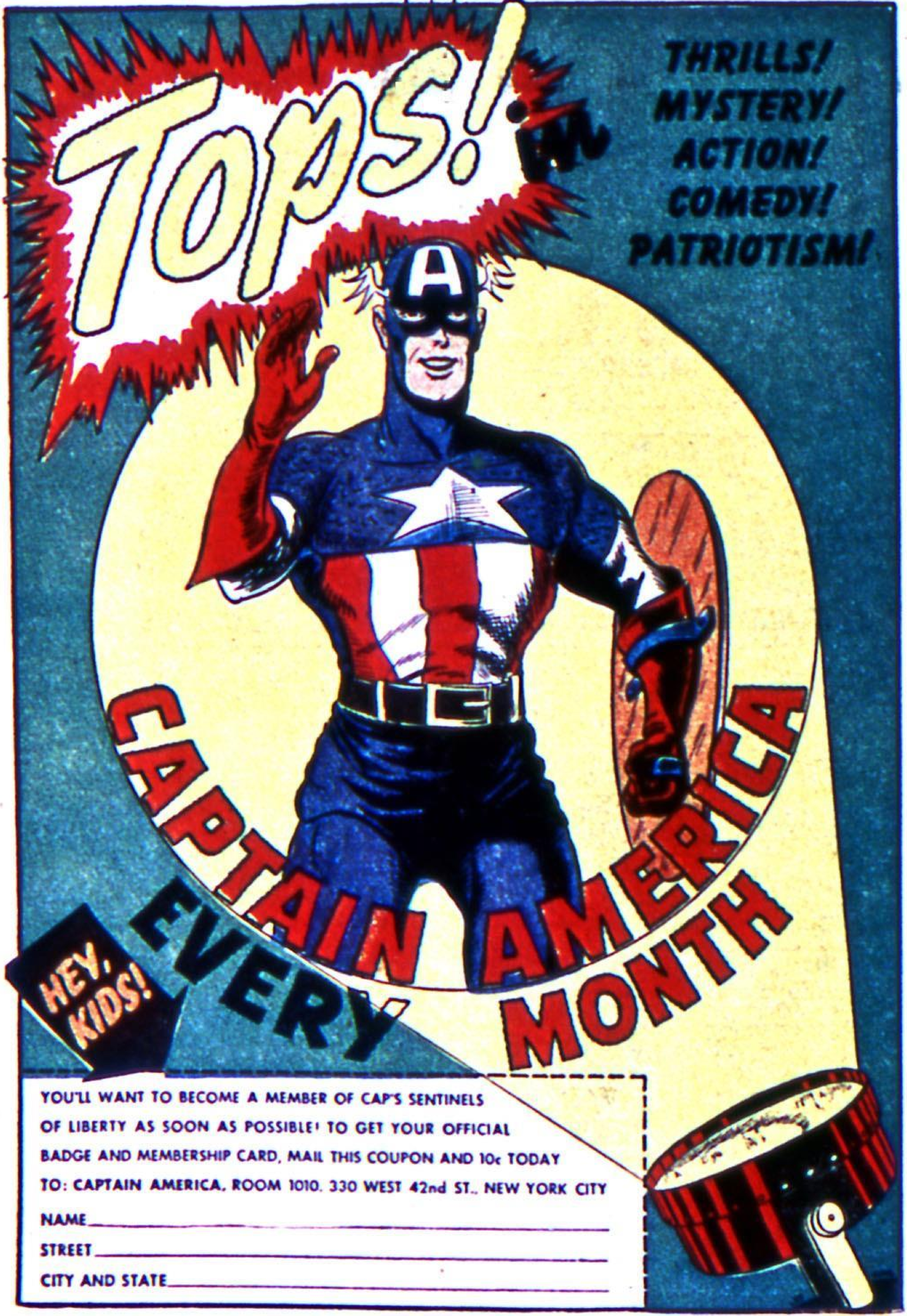

Now.. LET US TURN TO THE OFFICE OF KARL KOODAMORE
ALL RIGHT, HENDERSON, WHO DO YOU WANT KILLED?.. SPEAK UP, MAN!.. MURDER IS MY BUSINESS!!
I WANT YOU TO RUB OUT JOHN MARRIMAN, THE ACTOR WHO HAS WON MY WIFE'S LOVE!


THE TWO CHARACTERS STRIKE AN INSIDIOUS BARGAIN!
THAT'LL COST YOU PLENTY! HENDERSON!
AH..AH!... BUT I WANT HIM FINISHED FOR GOOD!


WOODAMORE PLANS HIS KILL!
TONIGHT JOHN MARRIMAN HAS TO FIGHT A DUEL ON THE STAGE!.. SPARKS... YOU WILL ATTACH THIS WIRE UNDER HIS CLOAK IN THE DRESSING ROOM!
....AND YOU, PETE, WILL TAKE THE PLACE OF THE ACTOR, WHO WEARS THE SKULL MASK AND DUELS WITH MARRIMAN... YOU'LL USE THE ELECTRICALLY CHARGED TIP! YOU'LL JUST TOUCH HIM AND HE'LL BURN!
THAT NIGHT... THE MYSTERY PLAY "THE DUEL WITH DEATH" OPENS AT THE EMERALD THEATRE
I HAVE COME TO DUEL WITH DEATH! WHERE IS HE?... I CHALLENGE HIM!
PETE, DISGUISED AS "DEATH".... STEPS OUT ON THE STAGE.... DEADLY SWORD POISED!
HERE I AM!
SAY... YOU'RE NOT SUPPOSED TO DODGE!
THE "FALSE" DUEL... BECOMES A REAL DUEL OF DEATH!
THE GREAT DRAMATIC ACTOR REACTS HIS DEATH SCENE!
SUDDENLY.. THE BLACK WIDOW APPEARS!


A STARKLY REAL DRAMA TAKES PLACE ON THE STAGE AS THE AUDIENCE ADMIRES THE AUTHOR'S PLAYWRITING TALENTS!
I AM THE BLACK WIDOW!
NO!...NO! AAAaaa....!
ONLY KARL KOODAMORE GRASPS THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE FOOTLIGHT PERFORMANCE.
THAT WASN'T IN THE PLAY...SHE'S REALLY THE BLACK WIDOW!!
Frantically THE GANGSTER FIRES!
BANG! BANG! BANG!
DA BULLETS AIN'T STOPPIN' HER!..SHE AIN'T HUMAN!
KOODAMORE COWERS AS SATAN'S COURIER DESCENDS FROM THE STAGE!
SHE'S COMING DOWN THE AISLE AT ME!..GET HER SPARKS!..
THE BLACK WIDOW STARTS SPARKS OFF ON HIS JOURNEY TO HADES!
EVIL ONE, I CLAIM YOUR SOUL FOR SATAN!
AAAAHHH!
Meanwhile.. KOODAMORE, GAINING THE SANCTUARY OF HIS OFFICE, CALLS ONE OF HIS MEN, CROSS-FACE DUROK, TO HIS AID.
LISTEN, CROSS-FACE! GET YOUR GAT OUT... SHE'S LIABLE TO BE HERE ANY MINUTE!
TAKE IT EASY, KARL! I AIN'T SCARED O' NO DAME!
Suddenly.. THROUGH THE WINDOW APPEARS THE BLACK WIDOW!
HELP! IT'S HER!
WHAT?


CROSS-FACE TRIES TO STOP THE ONCOMING FEMALE TORNADO..... WITHOUT SUCCESS!
YOU ASKED FOR IT!.. WHY... WHY... SHE WON'T DIE!
BANG! BANG! BANG!
YOUR TIME HAS COME, CROSS-FACE DUROK!
RATHER THAN FACE THE BLACK WIDOW'S TERRIBLE CARESS OF DEATH, CROSS-FACE DUROK TAKES THE COWARD'S WAY OUT... SUICIDE!
YOU'LL NEVER TOUCH ME, YOU WITCH!... AAAAAAAA...
BANG!
Meanwhile.. KOODAMORE HAS RUSHED DOWN STAIRS AND IS SPEEDING AWAY IN HIS CAR!
SHE'LL NEVER GET ME, NOW!
FOR HOURS, KOODAMORE DRIVES ON..ON
HA-HA! LOOKS LIKE I GAVE HER THE SLIP!
Suddenly ON THE ROAD AHEAD THE TERRIFIED CRIMINAL SEES THE BLACK WIDOW!
HALT!
A FIENDISH PLAN ENTERS KOODAMORE'S CORRUPT BRAIN!
HA-HA!...I'LL RUN HER DOWN! HA-HA-HAHA---HAHAA...!
EITHER THROUGH THE HAND OF FATE...OR THE CRIMINAL'S OWN MISCALCULATION... THE CAR SWERVES PAST THE AGENT OF SATAN,... AND DOWN... DOWN.. INTO THE RIVER BELOW!.
YAAAAAAHHHH
NOW I CAN RETURN TO WHENCE I CAME... I HAVE COLLECTED THE EVIL SOUL OF KARL KOODAMORE.... AND MY WORK IS DONE!
THE END!


Tops!
IN
THRILLS!
MYSTERY!
ACTION!
COMEDY!
PATRIOTISM!
A
CAPTAIN AMERICA
HEY, KIDS!
EVERY MONTH

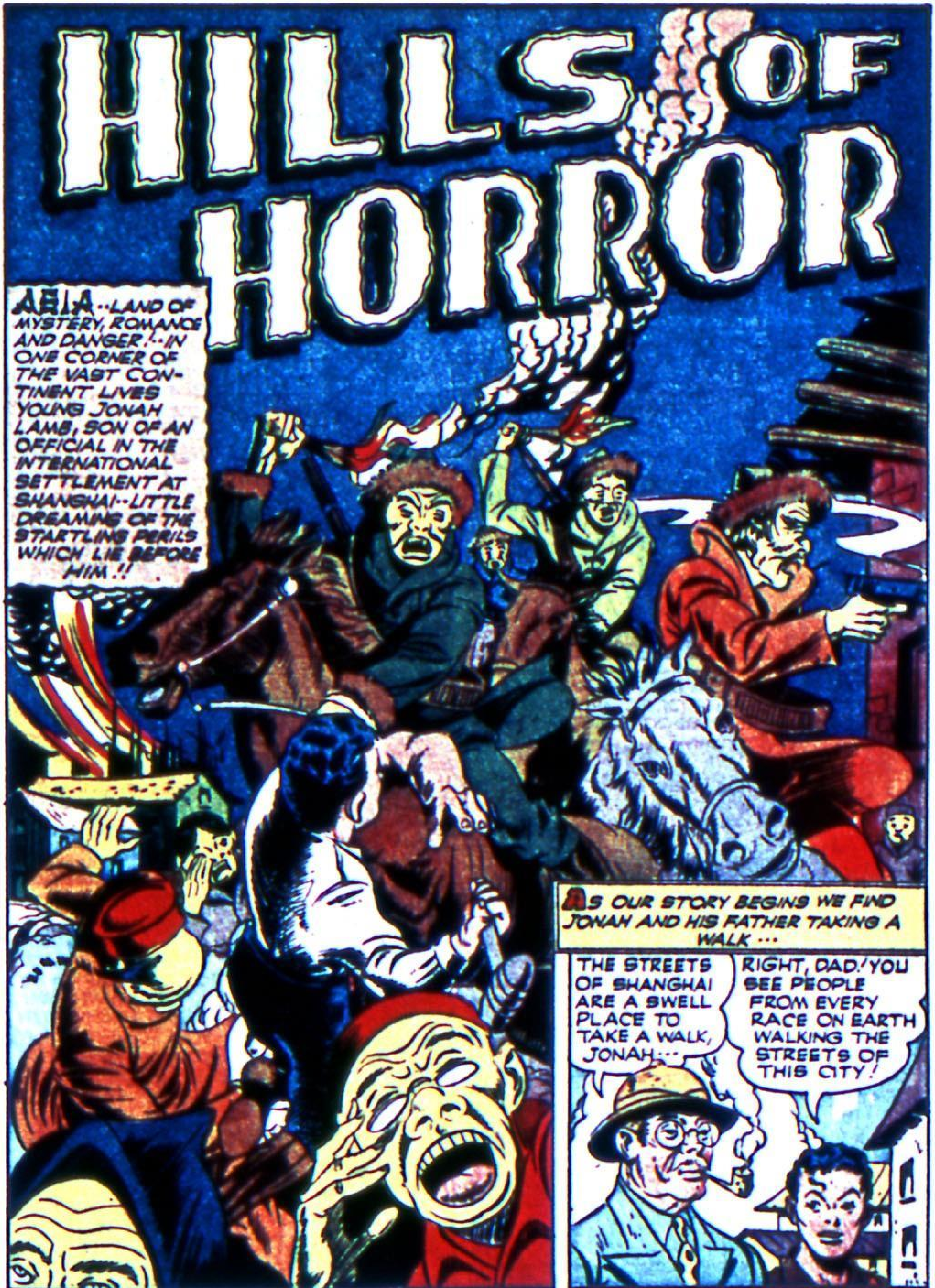
YOU'LL WANT TO BECOME A MEMBER OF CAP'S SENTINELS OF LIBERTY AS SOON AS POSSIBLE! TO GET YOUR OFFICIAL BADGE AND MEMBERSHIP CARD, MAIL THIS COUPON AND 10c TODAY TO: CAPTAIN AMERICA, ROOM 1010, 330 WEST 42nd ST., NEW YORK CITY

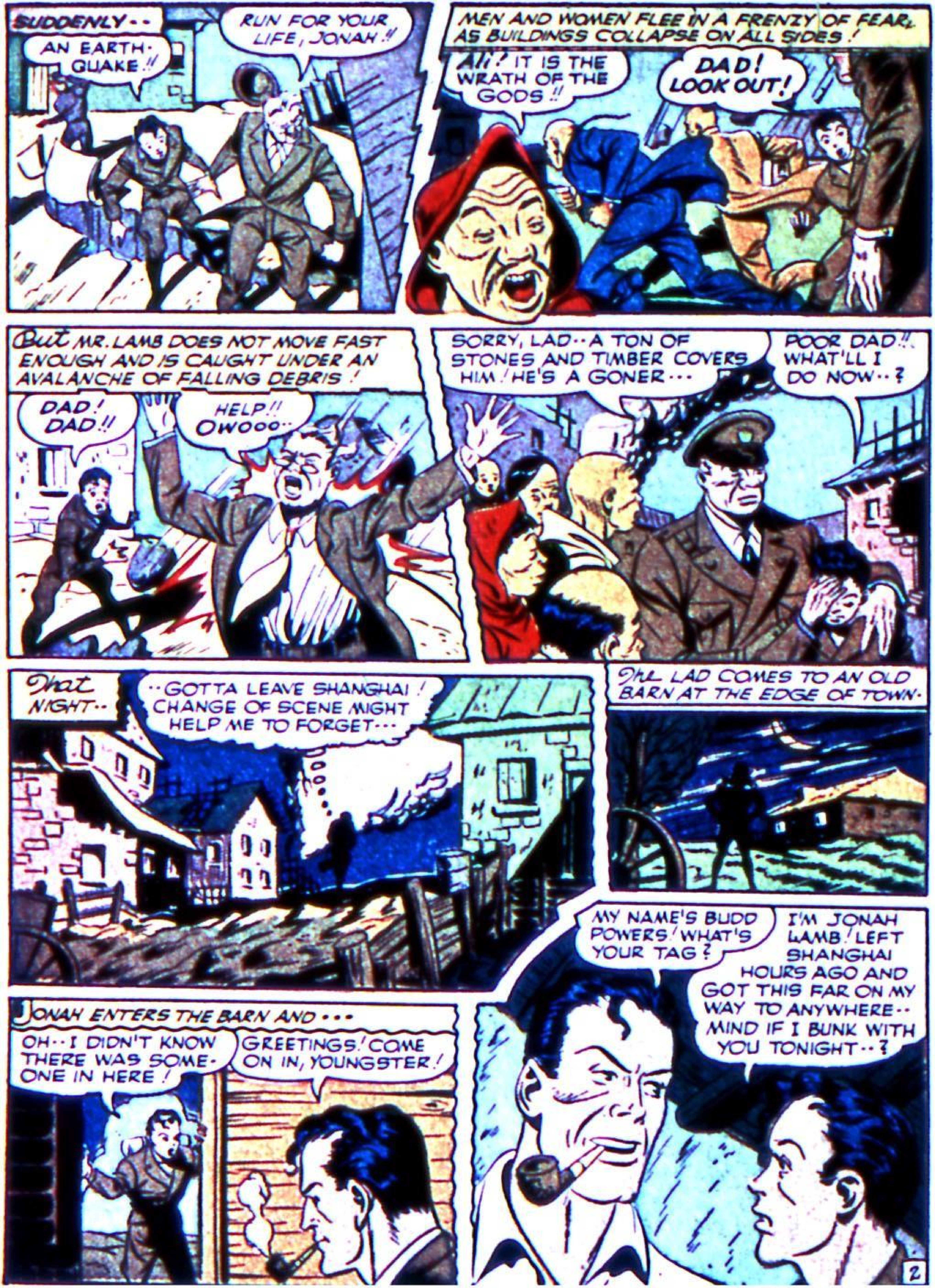
NAME____________________

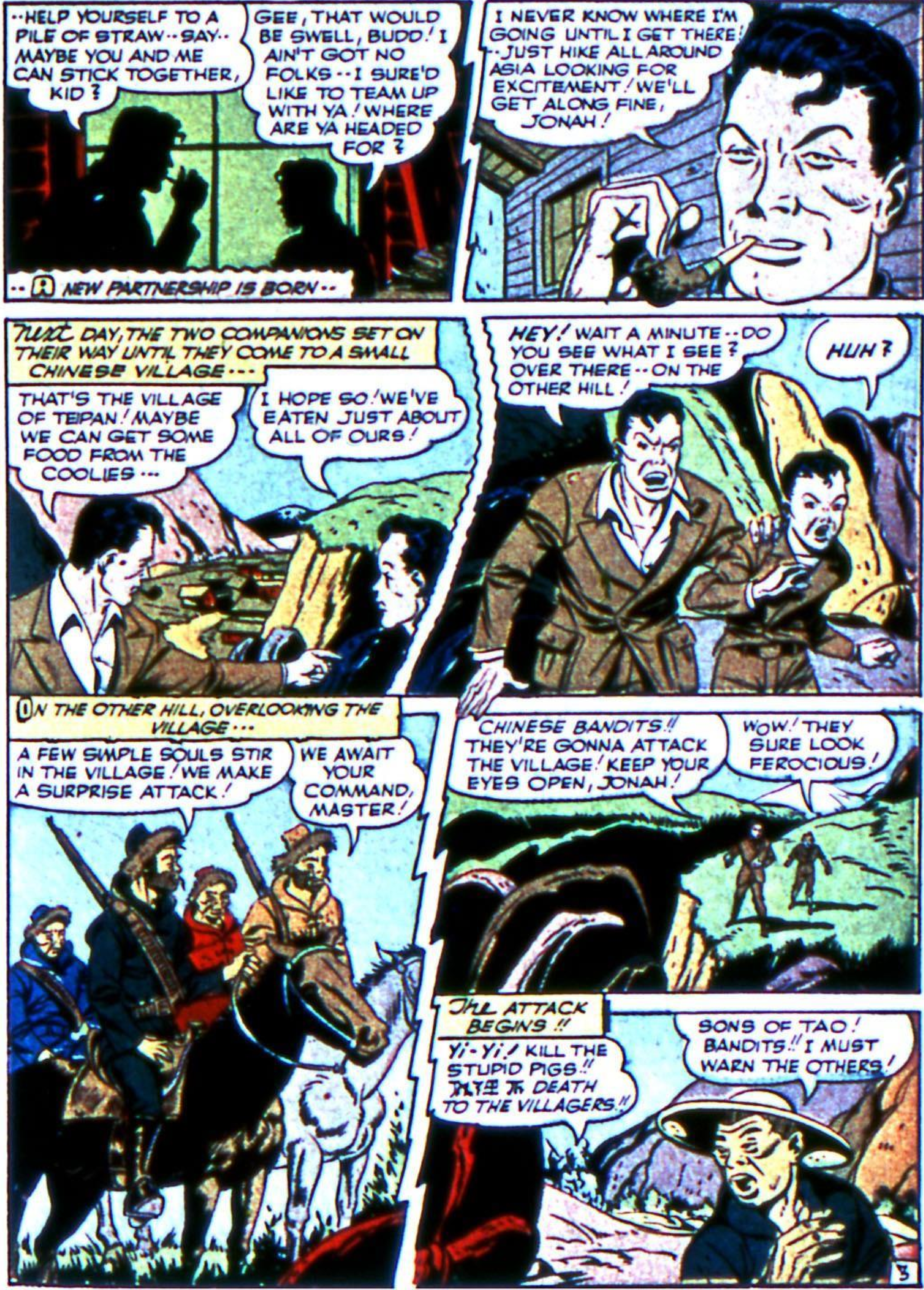
STREET____________________

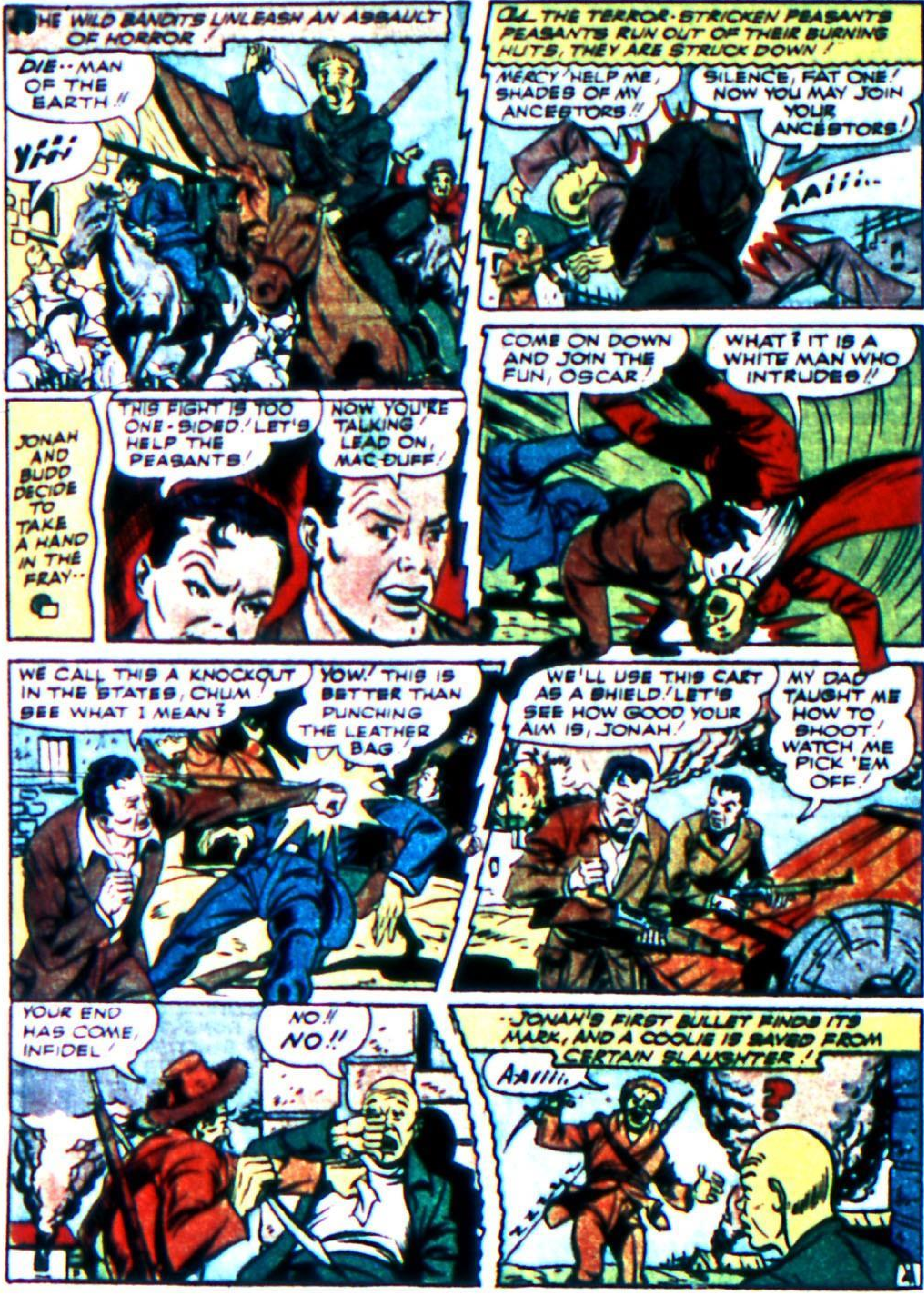
CITY AND STATE____________________

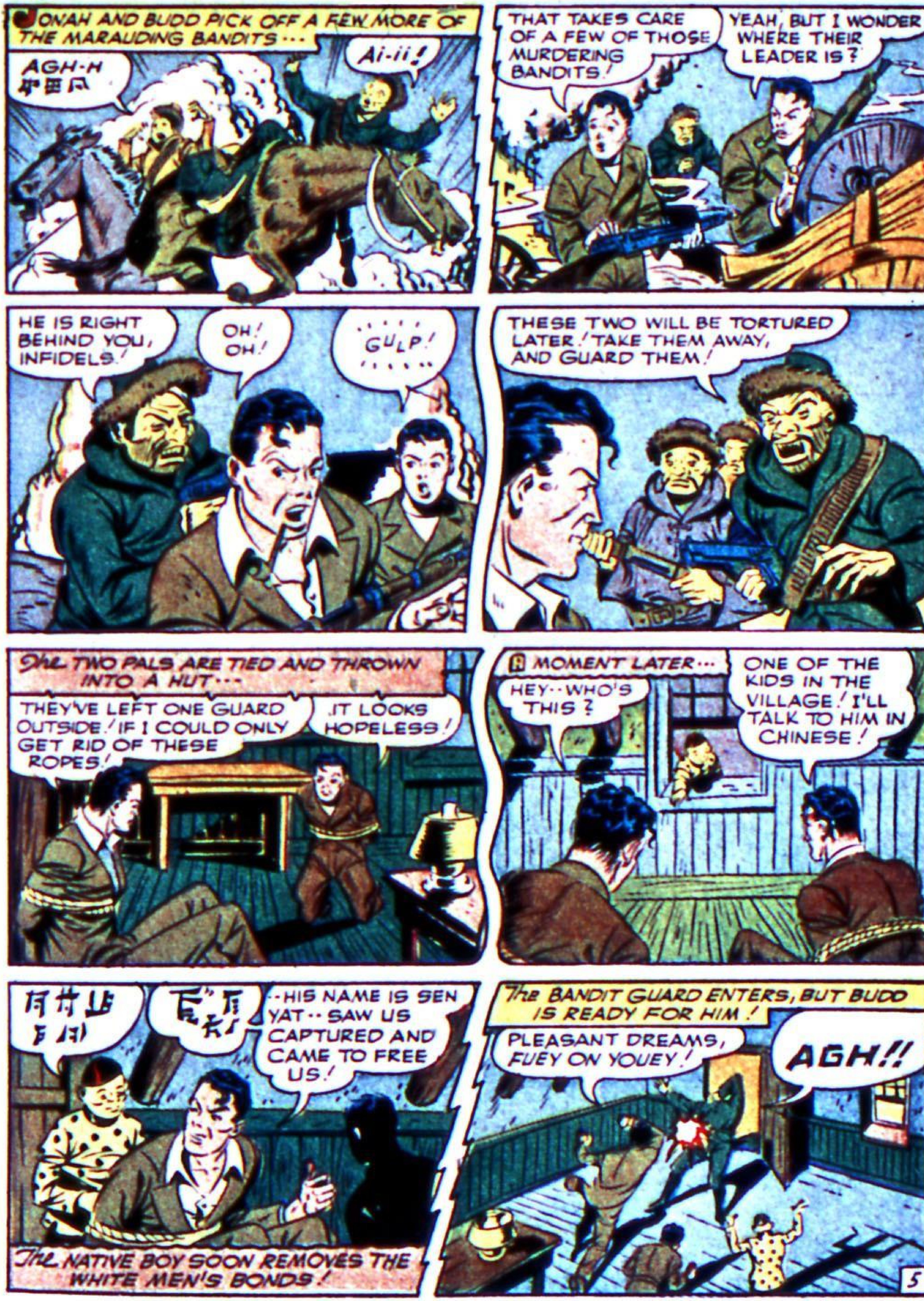
HILLS OF HORROR

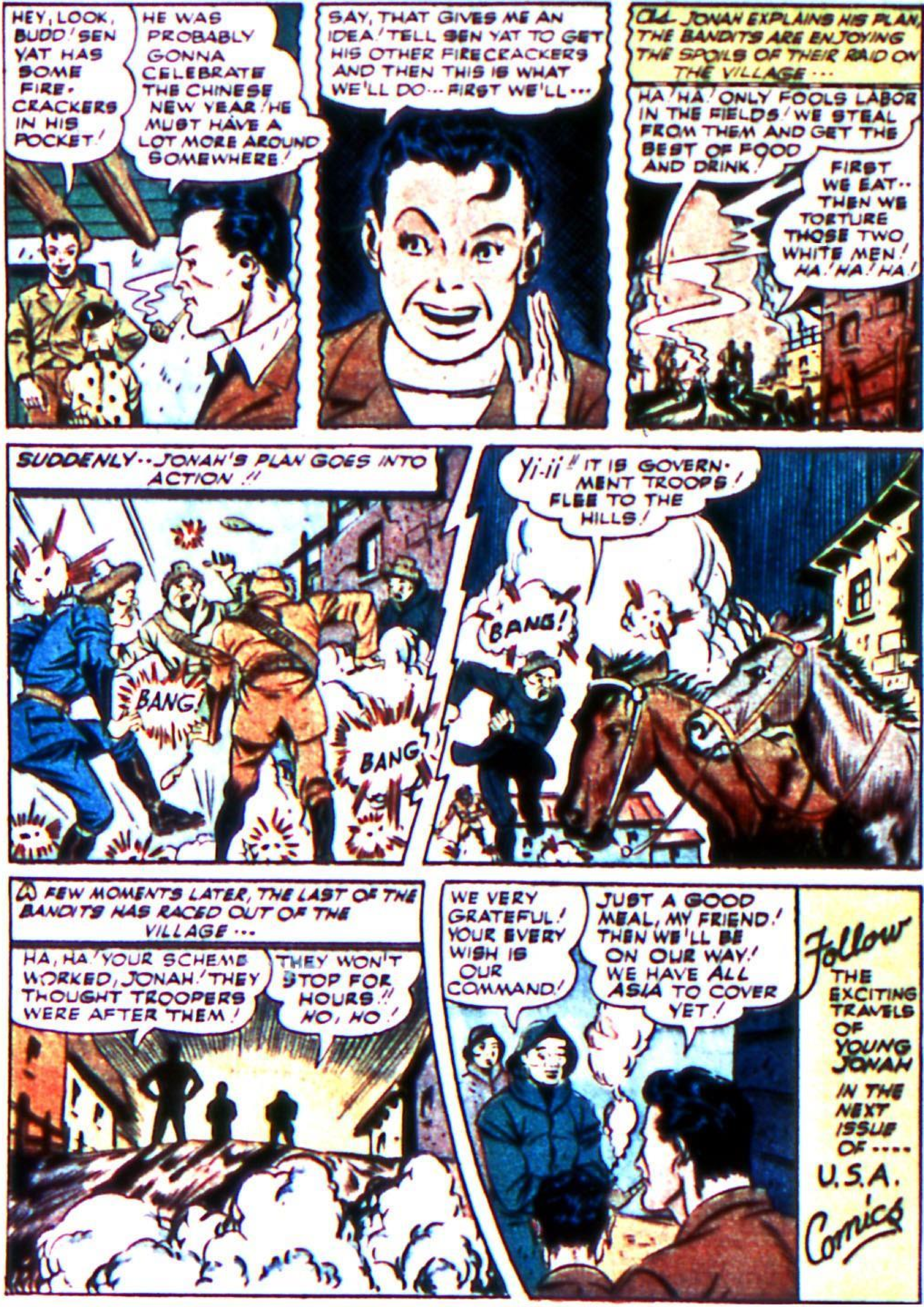

ASIA..LAND OF MYSTERY, ROMANCE AND DANGER!--IN ONE CORNER OF THE VAST CONTINENT LIVES YOUNG JONAH LAMB, SON OF AN OFFICIAL IN THE INTERNATIONAL SETTLEMENT AT SHANGHAI--LITTLE DREAMING OF THE STARTLING PERILS WHICH LIE BEFORE HIM!!
AS OUR STORY BEGINS WE FIND JONAH AND HIS FATHER TAKING A WALK ...
THE STREETS OF SHANGHAI ARE A SWELL PLACE TO TAKE A WALK, JONAH...
RIGHT, DAD! YOU SEE PEOPLE FROM EVERY RACE ON EARTH WALKING THE STREETS OF THIS CITY!


SUDDENLY--
AN EARTH-QUAKE!!
RUN FOR YOUR LIFE, JONAH!!
MEN AND WOMEN FLEE IN A FRENZY OF FEAR, AS BUILDINGS COLLAPSE ON ALL SIDES!
Ai! IT IS THE WRATH OF THE GODS!!
DAD! LOOK OUT!
But MR. LAMB DOES NOT MOVE FAST ENOUGH AND IS CAUGHT UNDER AN AVALANCHE OF FALLING DEBRIS!
DAD! DAD!!
HELP!! OWOOO--
SORRY, LAD--A TON OF STONES AND TIMBER COVERS HIM! HE'S A GONER...
POOR DAD!!. WHAT'LL I DO NOW--?
That NIGHT--
--GOTTA LEAVE SHANGHAI! CHANGE OF SCENE MIGHT HELP ME TO FORGET...
The LAD COMES TO AN OLD BARN AT THE EDGE OF TOWN.
JONAH ENTERS THE BARN AND...
OH--I DIDN'T KNOW THERE WAS SOME-ONE IN HERE!
GREETINGS! COME ON IN, YOUNGSTER!
MY NAME'S BUDD POWERS! WHAT'S YOUR TAG?
I'M JONAH LAMB! LEFT SHANGHAI HOURS AGO AND GOT THIS FAR ON MY WAY TO ANYWHERE-- MIND IF I BUNK WITH YOU TONIGHT--?

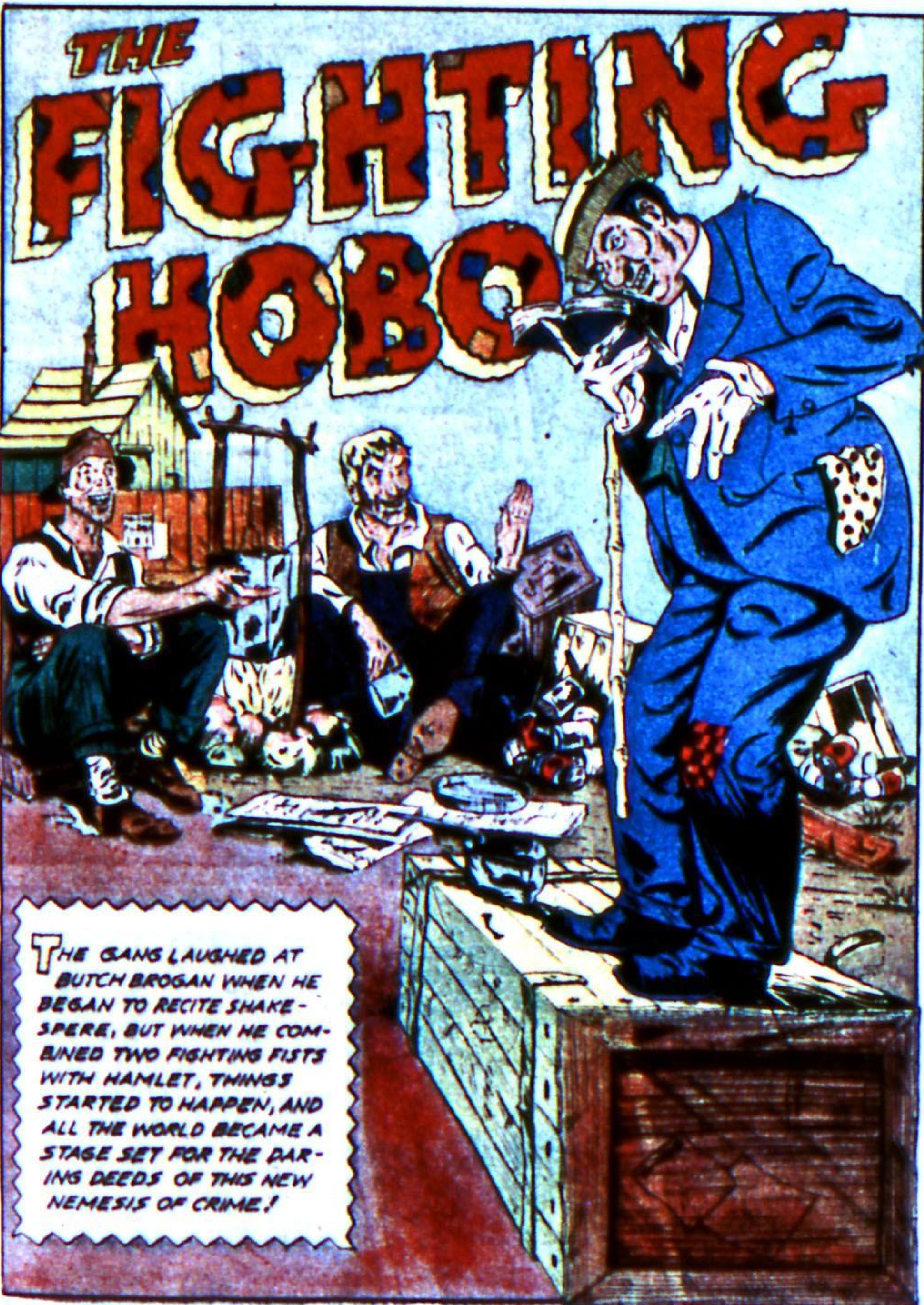

..HELP YOURSELF TO A PILE OF STRAW..SAY.. MAYBE YOU AND ME CAN STICK TOGETHER, KID?
GEE, THAT WOULD BE SWELL, BUDD! I AIN'T GOT NO FOLKS..I SURE'D LIKE TO TEAM UP WITH YA! WHERE ARE YA HEADED FOR?
..A NEW PARTNERSHIP IS BORN..
I NEVER KNOW WHERE I'M GOING UNTIL I GET THERE! ..JUST HIKE ALL AROUND ASIA LOOKING FOR EXCITEMENT! WE'LL GET ALONG FINE, JONAH!
NEXT DAY, THE TWO COMPANIONS SET ON THEIR WAY UNTIL THEY COME TO A SMALL CHINESE VILLAGE...
THAT'S THE VILLAGE OF TEIPAN! MAYBE WE CAN GET SOME FOOD FROM THE COOLIES...
I HOPE SO! WE'VE EATEN JUST ABOUT ALL OF OURS!
HEY! WAIT A MINUTE..DO YOU SEE WHAT I SEE? OVER THERE..ON THE OTHER HILL!
HUH?
ON THE OTHER HILL, OVERLOOKING THE VILLAGE...
A FEW SIMPLE SOULS STIR IN THE VILLAGE! WE MAKE A SURPRISE ATTACK!
WE AWAIT YOUR COMMAND, MASTER!
CHINESE BANDITS!! THEY'RE GONNA ATTACK THE VILLAGE! KEEP YOUR EYES OPEN, JONAH!
WOW! THEY SURE LOOK FEROCIOUS!
THE ATTACK BEGINS!!
YI-YI! KILL THE STUPID PIGS!! DEATH TO THE VILLAGERS!!
SONS OF TAO! BANDITS!! I MUST WARN THE OTHERS!


THE WILD BANDITS UNLEASH AN ASSAULT OF HORROR!
DIE--MAN OF THE EARTH!!
YI-I-I
AS THE TERROR-STRICKEN PEASANTS PEASANTS RUN OUT OF THEIR BURNING HUTS, THEY ARE STRUCK DOWN!
MERCY! HELP ME, SHADES OF MY ANCESTORS!!
SILENCE, FAT ONE! NOW YOU MAY JOIN YOUR ANCESTORS!
AAIII..
JONAH AND BUDD DECIDE TO TAKE A HAND IN THE FRAY..
THIS FIGHT IS TOO ONE-SIDED! LET'S HELP THE PEASANTS!
NOW YOU'RE TALKING! LEAD ON, MAC DUFF!
COME ON DOWN AND JOIN THE FUN, OSCAR!
WHAT? IT IS A WHITE MAN WHO INTRUDES!!
WE CALL THIS A KNOCKOUT IN THE STATES, CHUM! SEE WHAT I MEAN?
YOW! THIS IS BETTER THAN PUNCHING THE LEATHER BAG!
WE'LL USE THIS CART AS A SHIELD! LET'S SEE HOW GOOD YOUR AIM IS, JONAH!
MY DAD TAUGHT ME HOW TO SHOOT! WATCH ME PICK 'EM OFF!
YOUR END HAS COME, INFIDEL!
NO!! NO!!
--JONAH'S FIRST BULLET FINDS ITS MARK, AND A COOLIE IS SAVED FROM CERTAIN SLAUGHTER!
AAIIII..
?

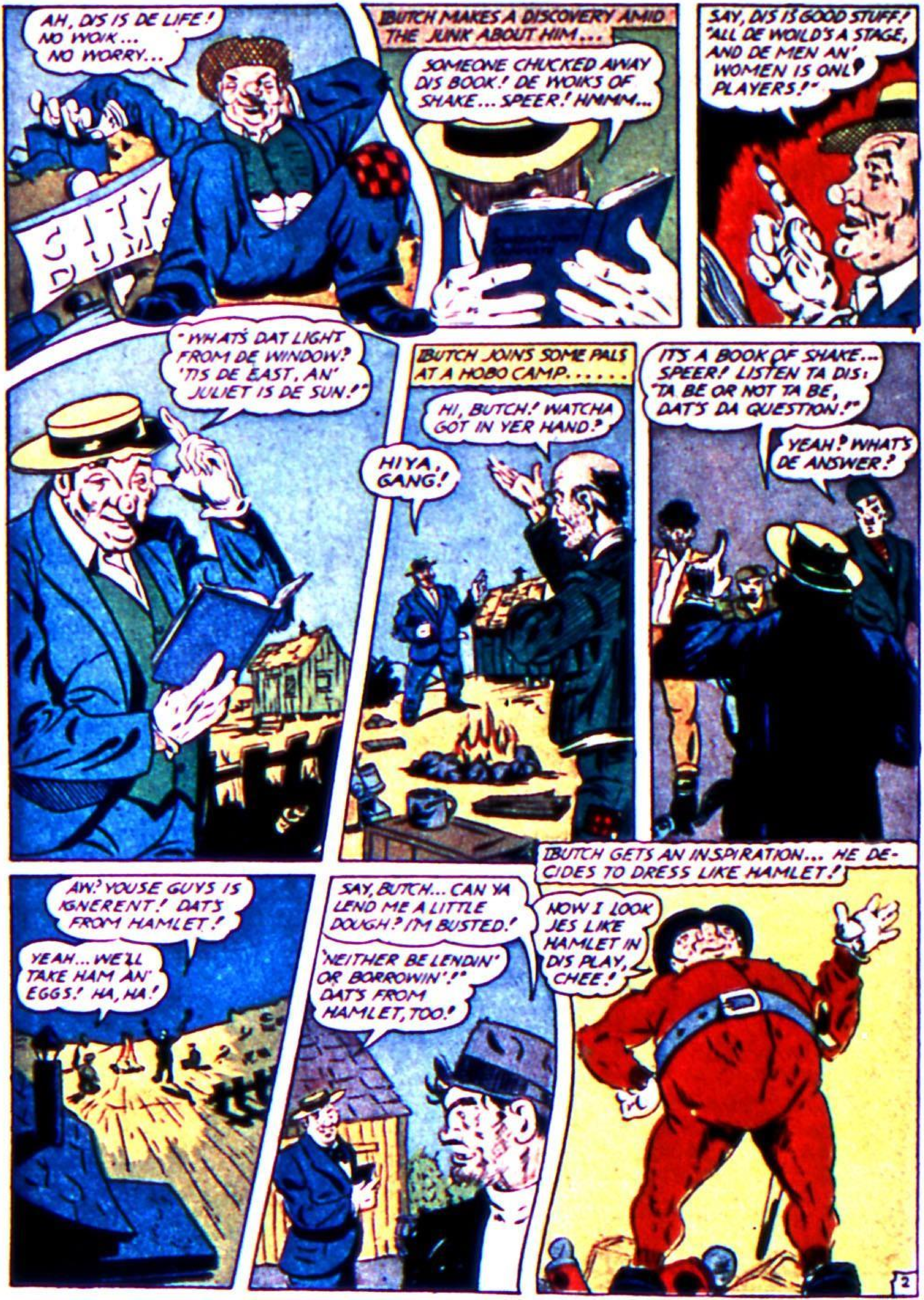

JONAH AND BUDD PICK OFF A FEW MORE OF THE MARAUDING BANDITS...
AGH-H
Ai-ii!
THAT TAKES CARE OF A FEW OF THOSE MURDERING BANDITS!
YEAH, BUT I WONDER WHERE THEIR LEADER IS?
HE IS RIGHT BEHIND YOU, INFIDELS!
OH! OH!
GULP!
THESE TWO WILL BE TORTURED LATER! TAKE THEM AWAY, AND GUARD THEM!
THE TWO PALS ARE TIED AND THROWN INTO A HUT...
THEY'VE LEFT ONE GUARD OUTSIDE! IF I COULD ONLY GET RID OF THESE ROPES!
IT LOOKS HOPELESS!
A MOMENT LATER...
HEY.. WHO'S THIS?
ONE OF THE KIDS IN THE VILLAGE! I'LL TALK TO HIM IN CHINESE!
..HIS NAME IS SEN YAT.. SAW US CAPTURED AND CAME TO FREE US!
THE NATIVE BOY SOON REMOVES THE WHITE MEN'S BONDS!
THE BANDIT GUARD ENTERS, BUT BUDD IS READY FOR HIM!
PLEASANT DREAMS, FUEY ON YOUEY!
AGH!!

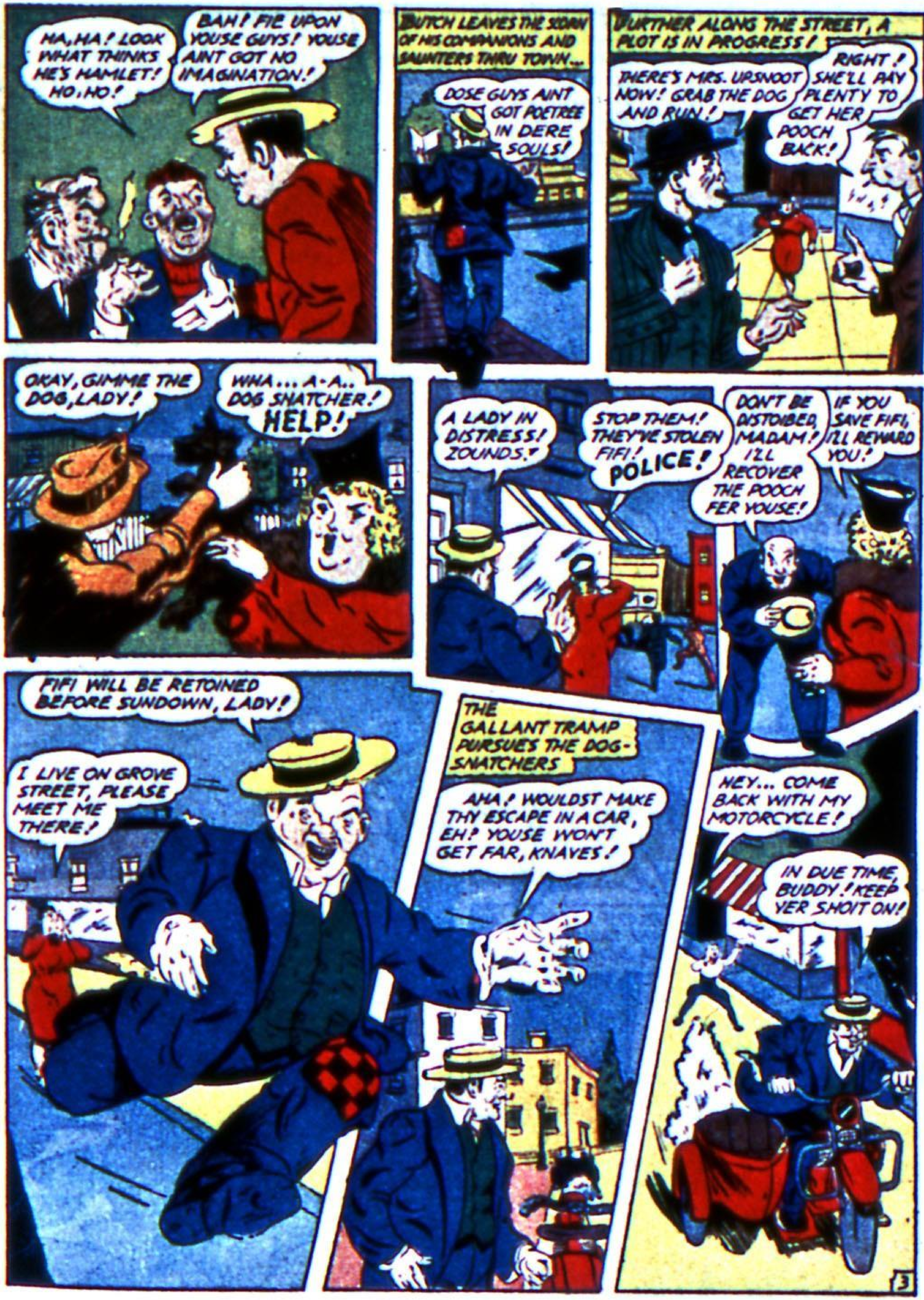

HEY, LOOK, BUDD! SEN YAT HAS SOME FIRE-CRACKERS IN HIS POCKET!
HE WAS PROBABLY GONNA CELEBRATE THE CHINESE NEW YEAR! HE MUST HAVE A LOT MORE AROUND SOMEWHERE!
SAY, THAT GIVES ME AN IDEA! TELL SEN YAT TO GET HIS OTHER FIRECRACKERS AND THEN THIS IS WHAT WE'LL DO... FIRST WE'LL...
AS JONAH EXPLAINS HIS PLAN, THE BANDITS ARE ENJOYING THE SPOILS OF THEIR RAID ON THE VILLAGE ...
HA! HA! ONLY FOOLS LABOR IN THE FIELDS! WE STEAL FROM THEM AND GET THE BEST OF FOOD AND DRINK!
FIRST WE EAT.. THEN WE TORTURE THOSE TWO WHITE MEN! HA! HA! HA!
SUDDENLY.. JONAH'S PLAN GOES INTO ACTION!!
BANG!
BANG
Yi-ii!! IT IS GOVERNMENT TROOPS! FLEE TO THE HILLS!
BANG!
A FEW MOMENTS LATER, THE LAST OF THE BANDITS HAS RACED OUT OF THE VILLAGE ...
HA, HA! YOUR SCHEME WORKED, JONAH! THEY THOUGHT TROOPERS WERE AFTER THEM!
THEY WON'T STOP FOR HOURS!! HO, HO!
WE VERY GRATEFUL! YOUR EVERY WISH IS OUR COMMAND!
JUST A GOOD MEAL, MY FRIEND! THEN WE'LL BE ON OUR WAY! WE HAVE ALL ASIA TO COVER YET!
Follow THE EXCITING TRAVELS OF YOUNG JONAH IN THE NEXT ISSUE OF .... U.S.A. Comics

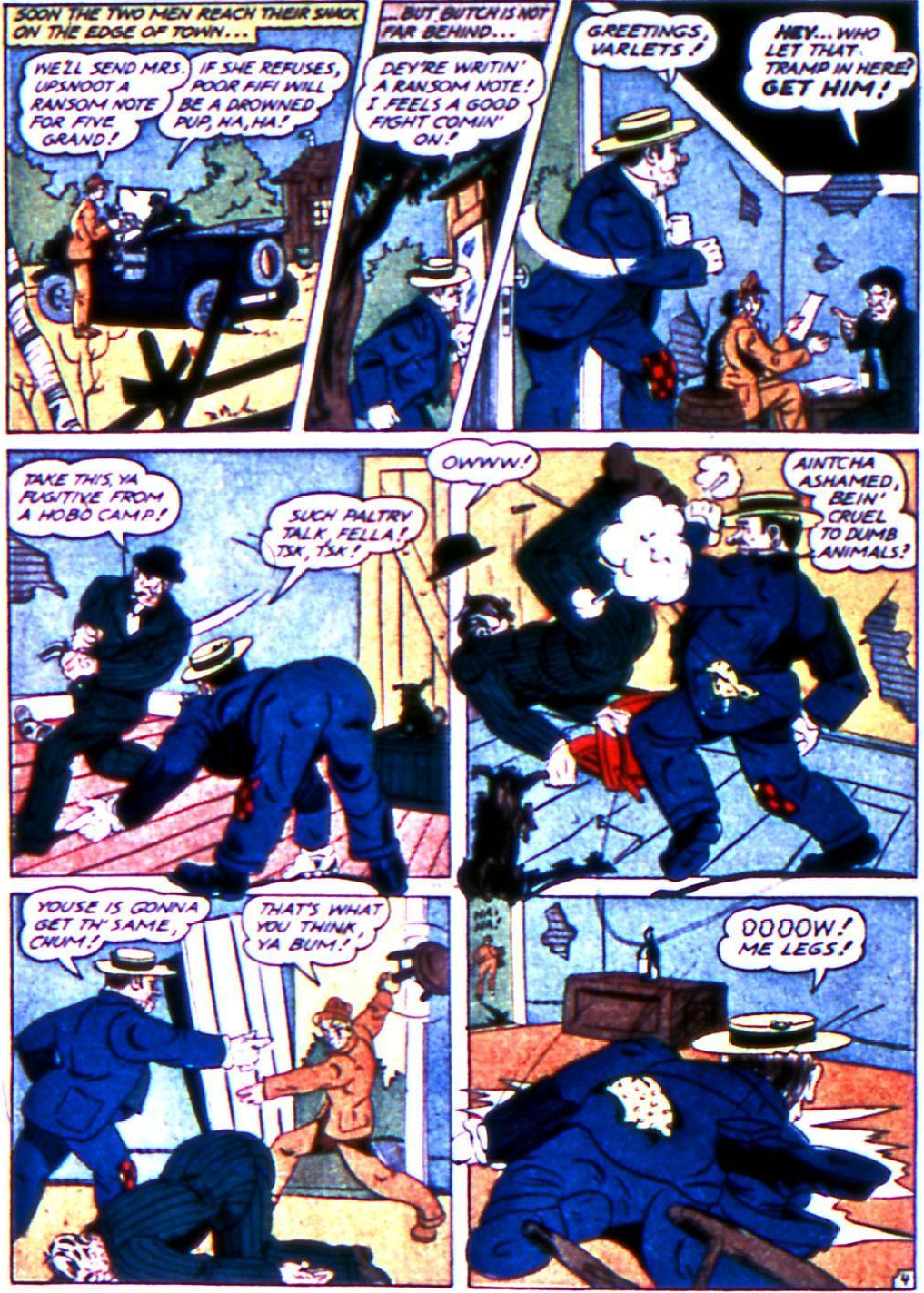
THE FIGHTING HOBO

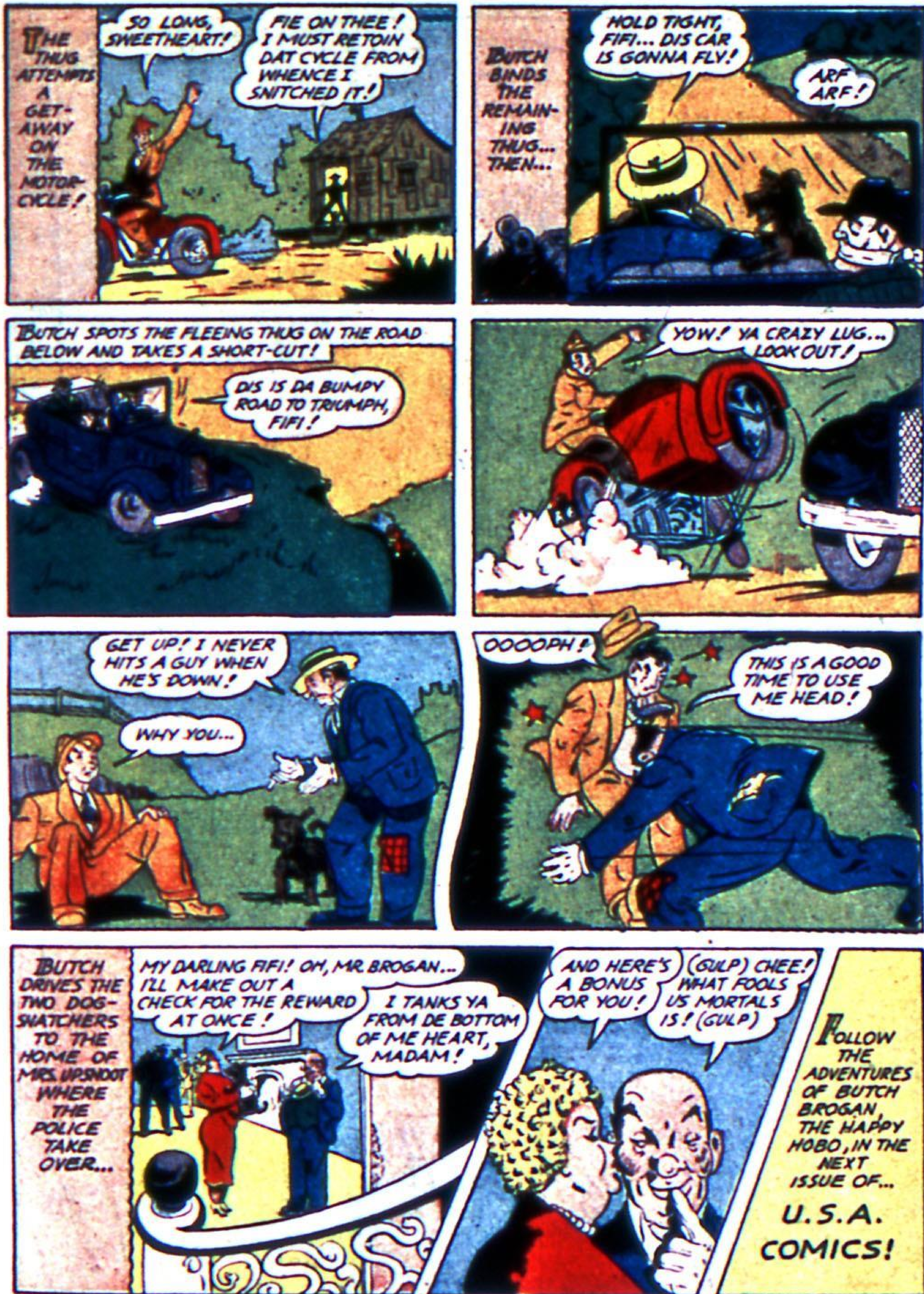


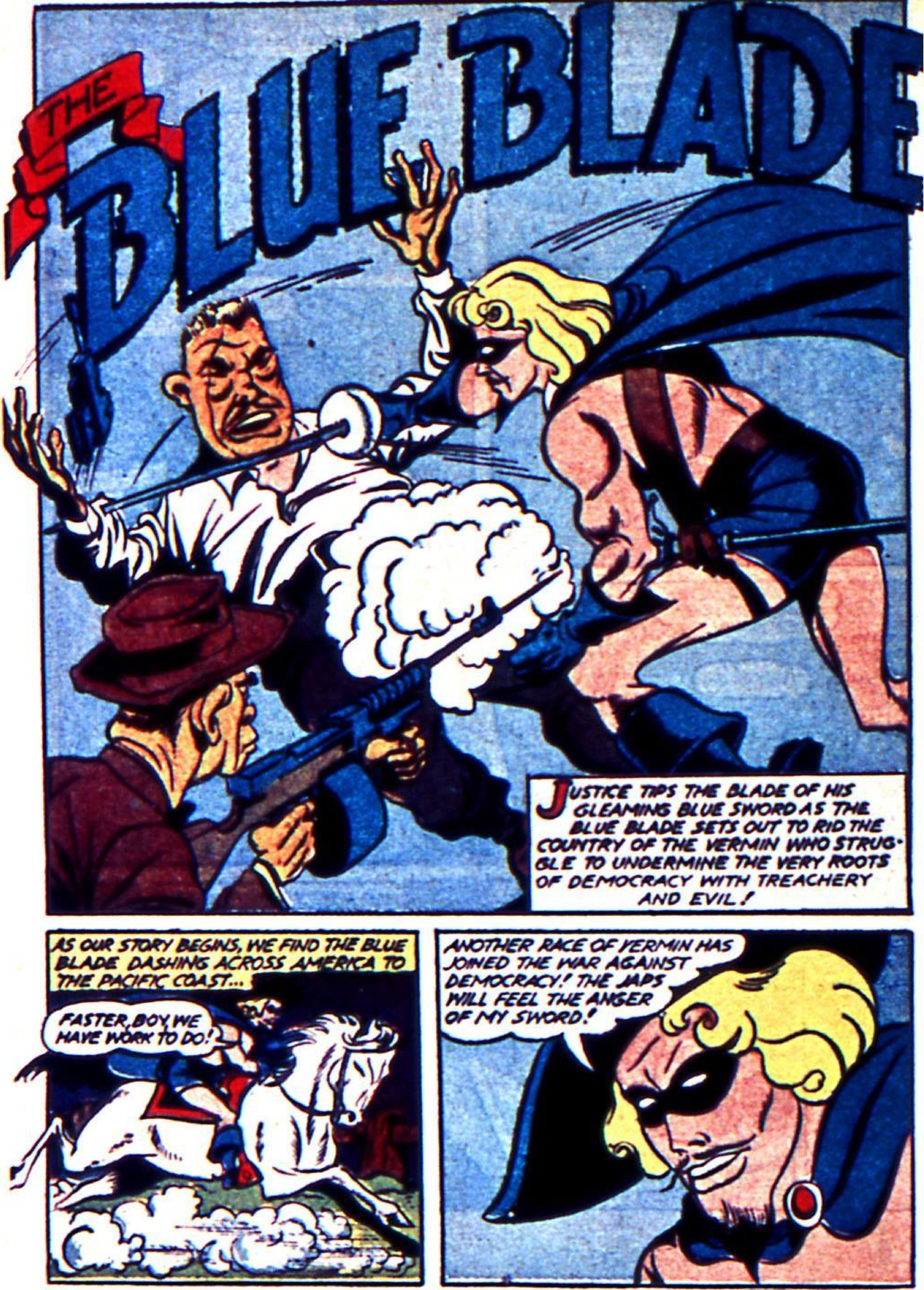
THE GANG LAUGHED AT BUTCH BROGAN WHEN HE BEGAN TO RECITE SHAKESPERE, BUT WHEN HE COMBINED TWO FIGHTING FISTS WITH HAMLET, THINGS STARTED TO HAPPEN, AND ALL THE WORLD BECAME A STAGE SET FOR THE DARING DEEDS OF THIS NEW NEMESIS OF CRIME!

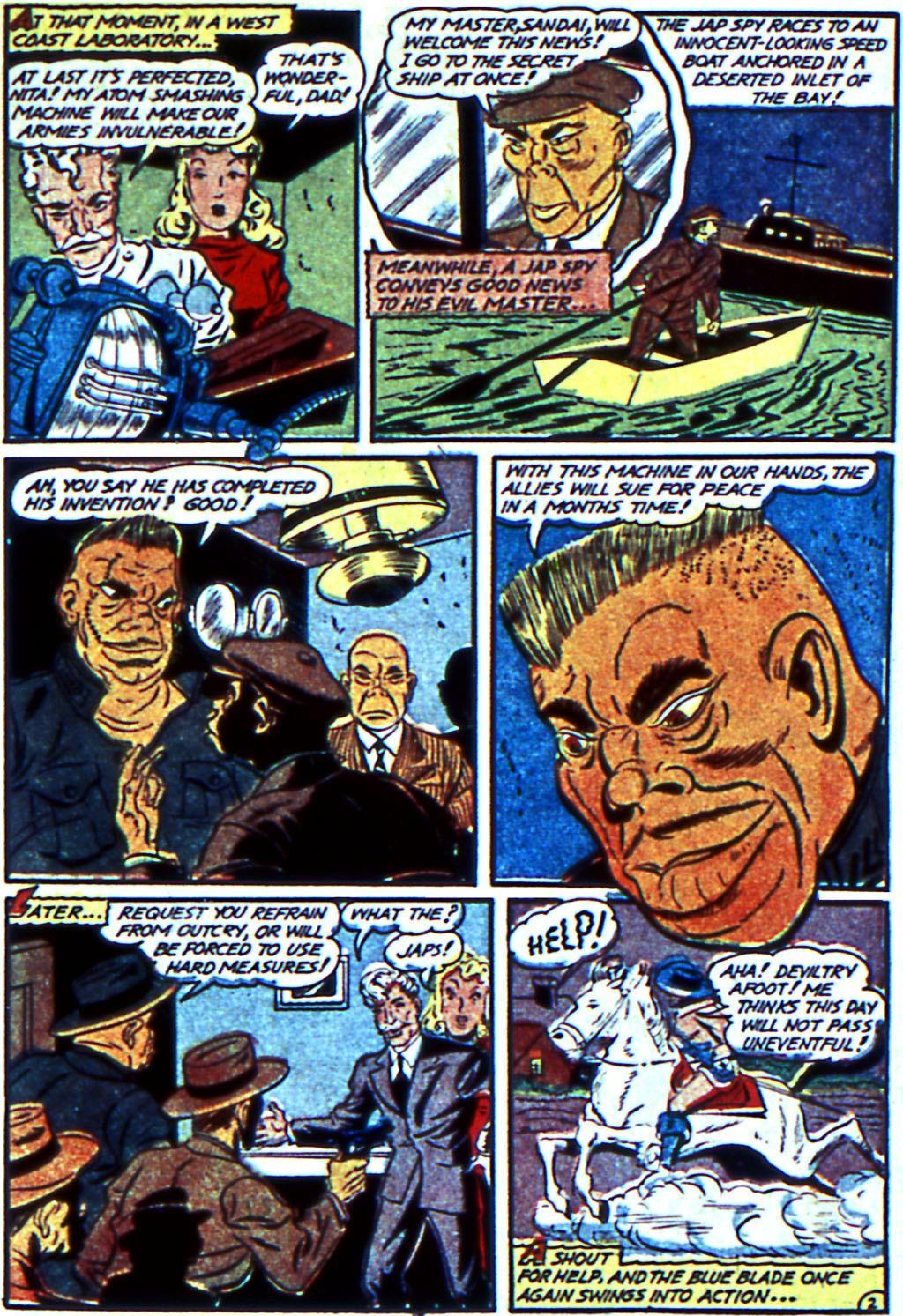

AH, DIS IS DE LIFE! NO WOIK... NO WORRY...
CITY DUMP
BUTCH MAKES A DISCOVERY AMID THE JUNK ABOUT HIM...
SOMEONE CHUCKED AWAY DIS BOOK! DE WOIKS OF SHAKE... SPEER! HMMM...
SAY, DIS IS GOOD STUFF! "ALL DE WOILD'S A STAGE, AN DE MEN AN' WOMEN IS ONLY PLAYERS!"
"WHAT'S DAT LIGHT FROM DE WINDOW? 'TIS DE EAST, AN' JULIET IS DE SUN!"
BUTCH JOINS SOME PALS AT A HOBO CAMP......
HI, BUTCH! WATCHA GOT IN YER HAND?
HIYA, GANG!
IT'S A BOOK OF SHAKE... SPEER! LISTEN TA DIS: "TA BE OR NOT TA BE, DAT'S DA QUESTION!"
YEAH? WHAT'S DE ANSWER?
AW? YOUSE GUYS IS IGNERENT! DAT'S FROM HAMLET!
YEAH... WE'LL TAKE HAM AN' EGGS! HA, HA!
SAY, BUTCH... CAN YA LEND ME A LITTLE DOUGH? I'M BUSTED!
"NEITHER BE LENDIN' OR BORROWIN'!" DAT'S FROM HAMLET, TOO!
BUTCH GETS AN INSPIRATION... HE DECIDES TO DRESS LIKE HAMLET!
NOW I LOOK JES LIKE HAMLET IN DIS PLAY, CHEE!

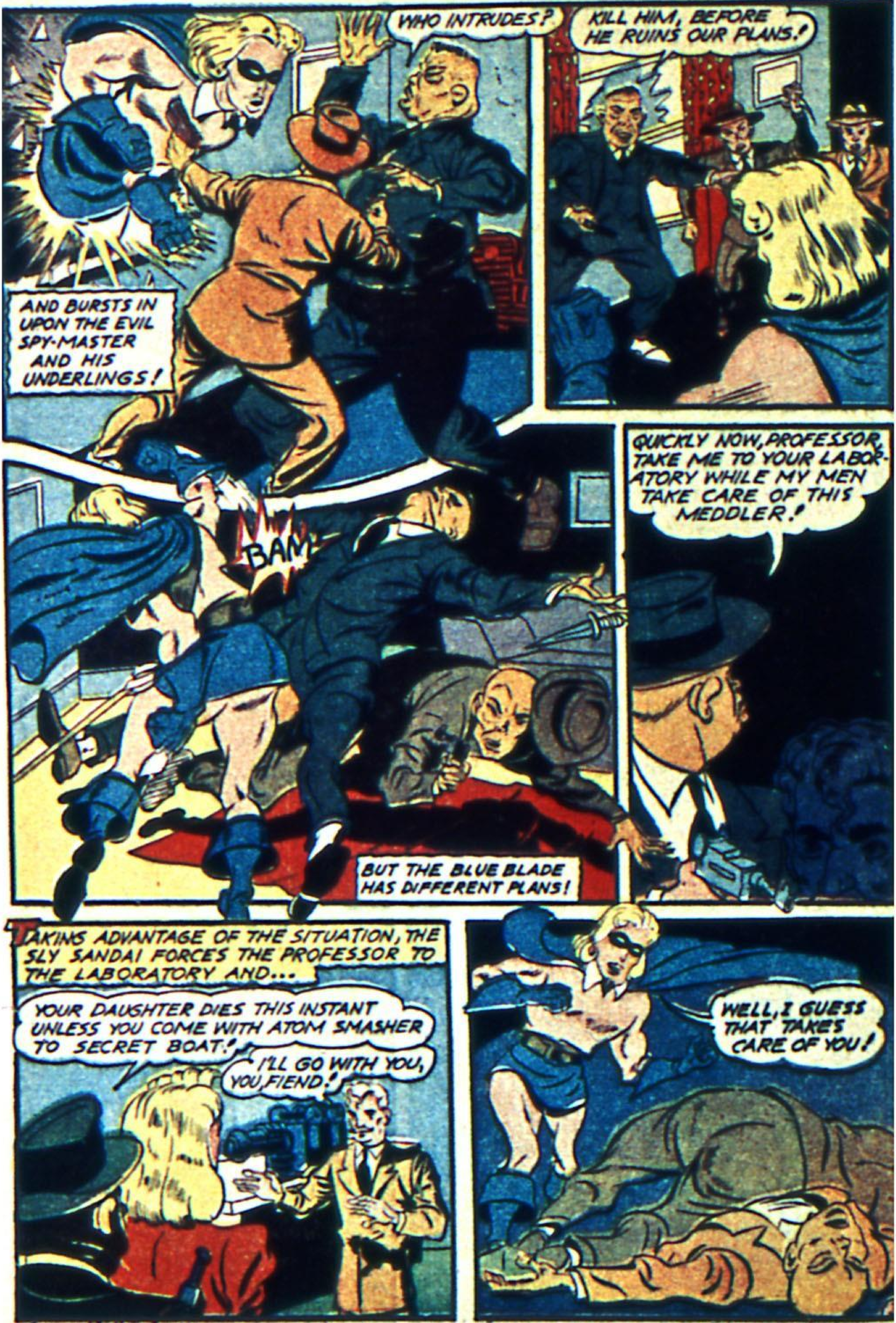

HA, HA! LOOK WHAT THINKS HE'S HAMLET! HO, HO!
BAH! FIE UPON YOUSE GUYS! YOUSE AINT GOT NO IMAGINATION!
BUTCH LEAVES THE SCORN OF HIS COMPANIONS AND SAUNTERS THRU TOWN...
DOSE GUYS AINT GOT POETREE IN DERE SOULS!
FURTHER ALONG THE STREET, A PLOT IS IN PROGRESS!
THERE'S MRS. UPSNOOT NOW! GRAB THE DOG AND RUN!
RIGHT! SHE'LL PAY PLENTY TO GET HER POOCH BACK!
OKAY, GIMME THE DOG, LADY!
WHA... A-A.. DOG SNATCHER! HELP!
A LADY IN DISTRESS! ZOUNDS!
STOP THEM! THEY'VE STOLEN FIFI! POLICE!
DON'T BE DISTOIBED, MADAM! I'LL RECOVER THE POOCH FER YOUSE!
IF YOU SAVE FIFI, I'LL REWARD YOU!
FIFI WILL BE RETOINED BEFORE SUNDOWN, LADY!
I LIVE ON GROVE STREET, PLEASE MEET ME THERE!
THE GALLANT TRAMP PURSUES THE DOG-SNATCHERS
AHA! WOULDST MAKE THY ESCAPE IN A CAR, EH? YOUSE WON'T GET FAR, KNAVES!
HEY... COME BACK WITH MY MOTORCYCLE!
IN DUE TIME, BUDDY! KEEP YER SHOIT ON!

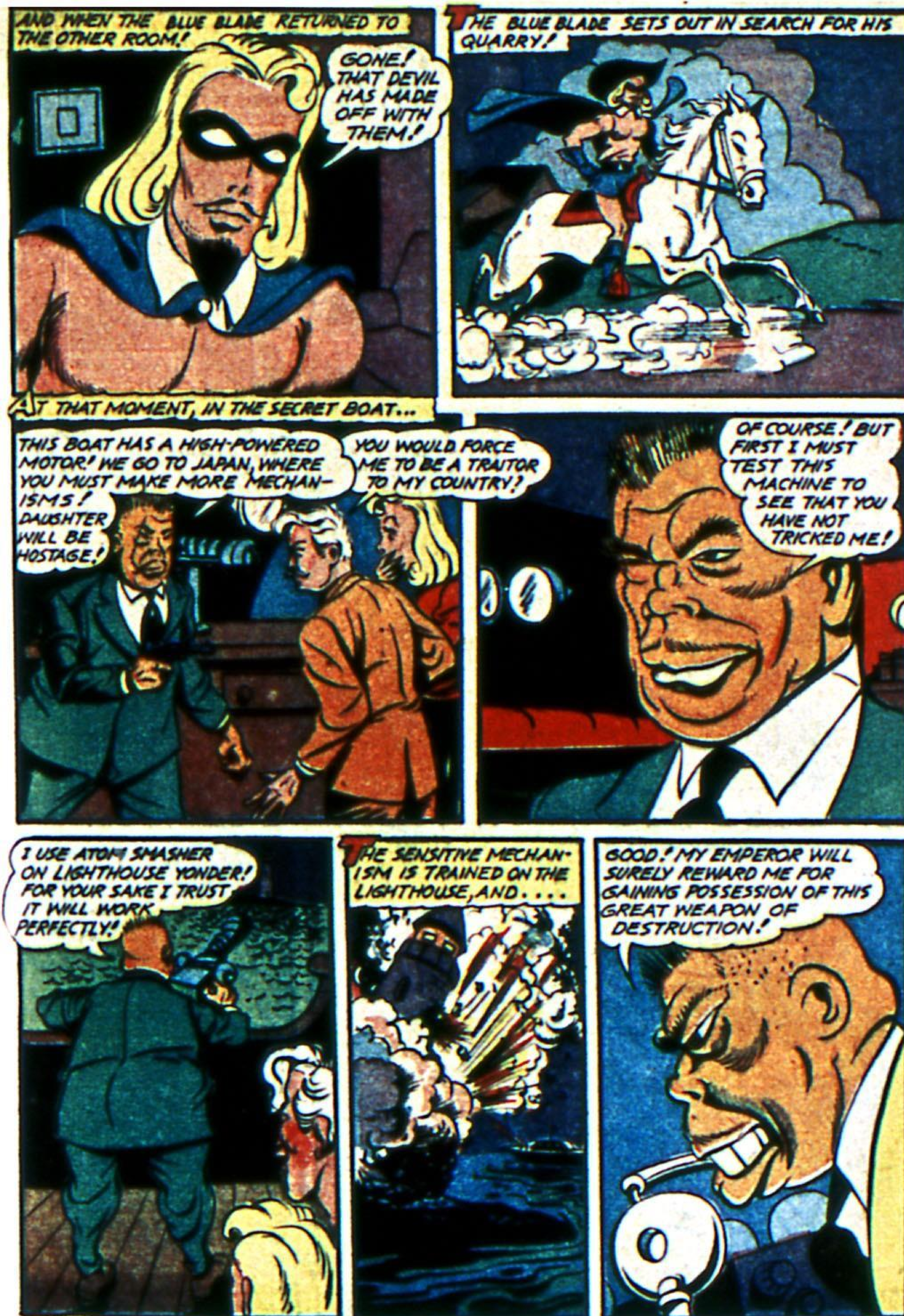

SOON THE TWO MEN REACH THEIR SHACK ON THE EDGE OF TOWN...
WE'LL SEND MRS. UPSNOOT A RANSOM NOTE FOR FIVE GRAND!
IF SHE REFUSES, POOR FIFI WILL BE A DROWNED PUP, HA, HA!
...BUT BUTCH IS NOT FAR BEHIND...
DEY'RE WRITIN' A RANSOM NOTE! I FEELS A GOOD FIGHT COMIN' ON!
GREETINGS, VARLETS!
HEY... WHO LET THAT TRAMP IN HERE? GET HIM!
TAKE THIS, YA FUGITIVE FROM A HOBO CAMP!
SUCH PALTRY TALK, FELLA! TSK, TSK!
OWWW!
AINTCHA ASHAMED, BEIN' CRUEL TO DUMB ANIMALS?
YOUSE IS GONNA GET TH' SAME, CHUM!
THAT'S WHAT YOU THINK, YA BUM!
HA! HA!
OOOOW! ME LEGS!

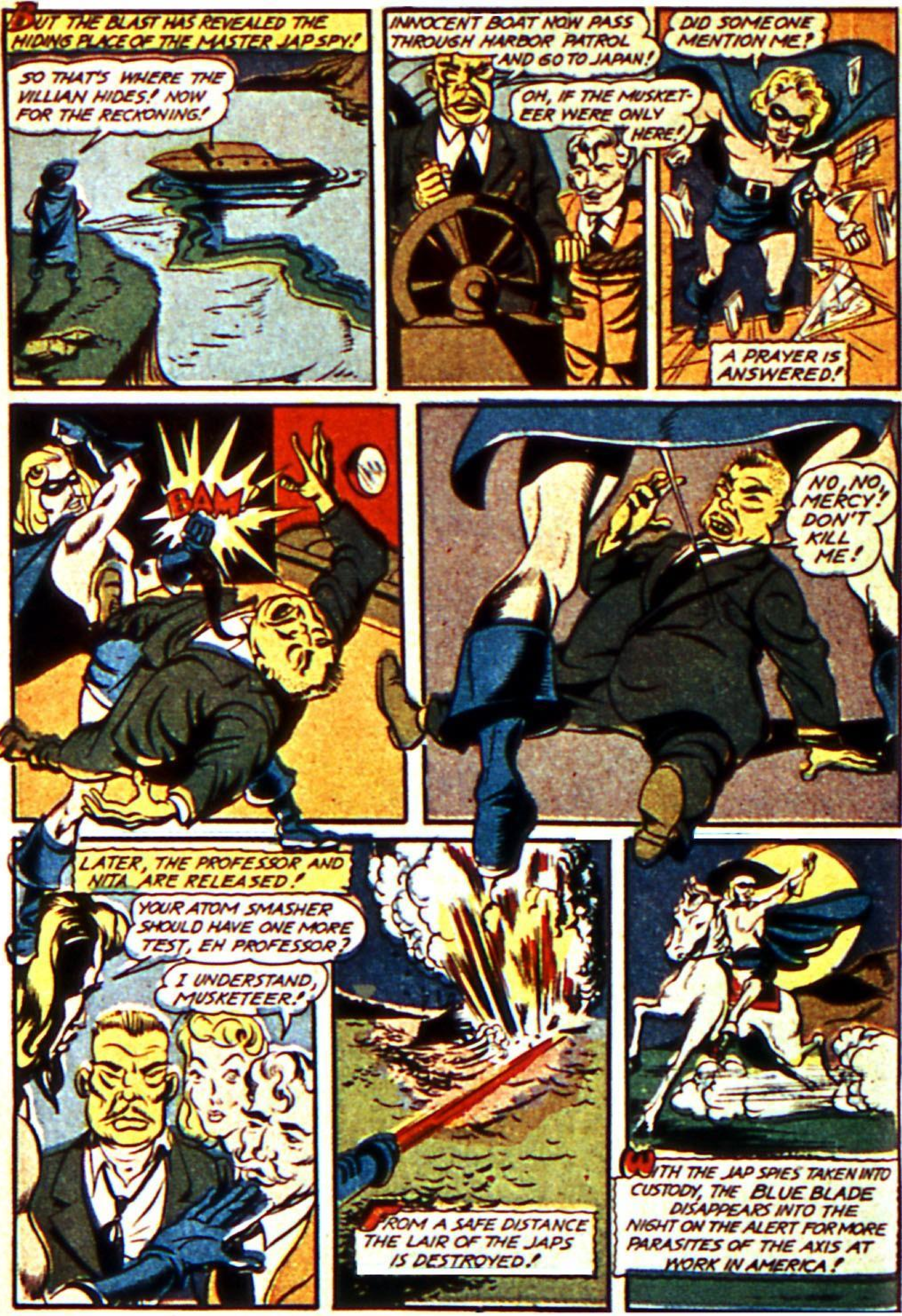

THE THUG ATTEMPTS A GET-AWAY ON THE MOTOR-CYCLE!
SO LONG, SWEETHEART!
FIE ON THEE! I MUST RETOIN DAT CYCLE FROM WHENCE I SNITCHED IT!
BUTCH BINDS THE REMAINING THUG... THEN...
HOLD TIGHT, FIFI... DIS CAR IS GONNA FLY!
ARF ARF!
BUTCH SPOTS THE FLEEING THUG ON THE ROAD BELOW AND TAKES A SHORT-CUT!
DIS IS DA BUMPY ROAD TO TRIUMPH, FIFI!
YOW! YA CRAZY LUG... LOOK OUT!
GET UP! I NEVER HITS A GUY WHEN HE'S DOWN!
WHY YOU...
OOOOPH!
THIS IS A GOOD TIME TO USE ME HEAD!
BUTCH DRIVES THE TWO DOG-SNATCHERS TO THE HOME OF MRS. UPSNOOT WHERE THE POLICE TAKE OVER...
MY DARLING FIFI! OH, MR. BROGAN... I'LL MAKE OUT A CHECK FOR THE REWARD AT ONCE!
I TANKS YA FROM DE BOTTOM OF ME HEART, MADAM!
AND HERE'S A BONUS FOR YOU!
(GULP) CHEE! WHAT FOOLS US MORTALS IS! (GULP)
FOLLOW THE ADVENTURES OF BUTCH BROGAN, THE HAPPY HOBO, IN THE NEXT ISSUE OF... U.S.A. COMICS!


THE BLUE BLADE
JUSTICE TIPS THE BLADE OF HIS GLEAMING BLUE SWORD AS THE BLUE BLADE SETS OUT TO RID THE COUNTRY OF THE VERMIN WHO STRUGGLE TO UNDERMINE THE VERY ROOTS OF DEMOCRACY WITH TREACHERY AND EVIL!
AS OUR STORY BEGINS, WE FIND THE BLUE BLADE DASHING ACROSS AMERICA TO THE PACIFIC COAST...
FASTER, BOY, WE HAVE WORK TO DO!
ANOTHER RACE OF VERMIN HAS JOINED THE WAR AGAINST DEMOCRACY! THE JAPS WILL FEEL THE ANGER OF MY SWORD!


AT THAT MOMENT, IN A WEST COAST LABORATORY...
AT LAST IT'S PERFECTED, NITA! MY ATOM SMASHING MACHINE WILL MAKE OUR ARMIES INVULNERABLE!
THAT'S WONDERFUL, DAD!
MY MASTER, SANDAI, WILL WELCOME THIS NEWS! I GO TO THE SECRET SHIP AT ONCE!
MEANWHILE, A JAP SPY CONVEYS GOOD NEWS TO HIS EVIL MASTER...
THE JAP SPY RACES TO AN INNOCENT-LOOKING SPEED BOAT ANCHORED IN A DESERTED INLET OF THE BAY!
AH, YOU SAY HE HAS COMPLETED HIS INVENTION? GOOD!
WITH THIS MACHINE IN OUR HANDS, THE ALLIES WILL SUE FOR PEACE IN A MONTHS TIME!
LATER...
REQUEST YOU REFRAIN FROM OUTCRY, OR WILL BE FORCED TO USE HARD MEASURES!
WHAT THE?
JAPS!
HELP!
AHA! DEVILTRY AFOOT! ME THINKS THIS DAY WILL NOT PASS UNEVENTFUL!
A SHOUT FOR HELP, AND THE BLUE BLADE ONCE AGAIN SWINGS INTO ACTION...


AND BURSTS IN UPON THE EVIL SPY-MASTER AND HIS UNDERLINGS!
WHO INTRUDES?
KILL HIM, BEFORE HE RUINS OUR PLANS!
BAM
BUT THE BLUE BLADE HAS DIFFERENT PLANS!
QUICKLY NOW, PROFESSOR, TAKE ME TO YOUR LABORATORY WHILE MY MEN TAKE CARE OF THIS MEDDLER!
TAKING ADVANTAGE OF THE SITUATION, THE SLY SANDAI FORCES THE PROFESSOR TO THE LABORATORY AND...
YOUR DAUGHTER DIES THIS INSTANT UNLESS YOU COME WITH ATOM SMASHER TO SECRET BOAT!
I'LL GO WITH YOU, YOU, FIEND!
WELL, I GUESS THAT TAKES CARE OF YOU!


AND WHEN THE BLUE BLADE RETURNED TO THE OTHER ROOM!
GONE! THAT DEVIL HAS MADE OFF WITH THEM!
THE BLUE BLADE SETS OUT IN SEARCH FOR HIS QUARRY!
AT THAT MOMENT, IN THE SECRET BOAT...
THIS BOAT HAS A HIGH-POWERED MOTOR! WE GO TO JAPAN, WHERE YOU MUST MAKE MORE MECHANISMS! DAUGHTER WILL BE HOSTAGE!
YOU WOULD FORCE ME TO BE A TRAITOR TO MY COUNTRY?
OF COURSE! BUT FIRST I MUST TEST THIS MACHINE TO SEE THAT YOU HAVE NOT TRICKED ME!
I USE ATOM SMASHER ON LIGHTHOUSE YONDER! FOR YOUR SAKE I TRUST IT WILL WORK PERFECTLY!
THE SENSITIVE MECHANISM IS TRAINED ON THE LIGHTHOUSE, AND . . .
GOOD! MY EMPEROR WILL SURELY REWARD ME FOR GAINING POSSESSION OF THIS GREAT WEAPON OF DESTRUCTION!


BUT THE BLAST HAS REVEALED THE HIDING PLACE OF THE MASTER JAP SPY!
SO THAT'S WHERE THE VILLIAN HIDES! NOW FOR THE RECKONING!
INNOCENT BOAT NOW PASS THROUGH HARBOR PATROL AND GO TO JAPAN!
OH, IF THE MUSKETEER WERE ONLY HERE!
DID SOMEONE MENTION ME?
A PRAYER IS ANSWERED!
BAM
NO, NO, MERCY! DON'T KILL ME!
LATER, THE PROFESSOR AND NITA ARE RELEASED!
YOUR ATOM SMASHER SHOULD HAVE ONE MORE TEST, EH PROFESSOR?
I UNDERSTAND, MUSKETEER!
FROM A SAFE DISTANCE THE LAIR OF THE JAPS IS DESTROYED!
WITH THE JAP SPIES TAKEN INTO CUSTODY, THE BLUE BLADE DISAPPEARS INTO THE NIGHT ON THE ALERT FOR MORE PARASITES OF THE AXIS AT WORK IN AMERICA!

Dead Man's Warning

EVER SINCE Cliff Prentiss' death in the cave-in, Pete had been uneasy. There was nothing tangible he could work on, no clue strong enough to demand investigation. Sheriff McKinley had had charge. He hadn't found anything wrong. Everyone else seemed satisfied with the verdict of accidental death. But Cliff Prentiss was an old hand at blasting. That he'd be so careless as to blast himself under a couple of tons of earth.

Sunlight filled the little gully hotly. Pete squinted down at the contents of the pan. He didn't know a heck of a lot about this sort of thing. Washing gold out of a gully bottom.

The sound of hoof beats drumming snatched his attention. Instinctively his hand dropped to his holstered gun. He turned without standing up.

Andy Cramer rode to the edge of the gully. Andy was stocky, brooding, cunning. He squinted down at the man below him, thick lips baring stained teeth in the semblance of a grin. "Howdy, kid," Andy Cramer greeted airily. "Been looking for you."

"Well, here I am." Pete continued to squat on his heels, half turned so Andy couldn't see that his hand rested on the gun. "Go ahead. Spill it."

"Trying to get rich quick?" Andy's eyes glinted menacingly. His horse jitter-bugged nervously.

"Maybe," Pete stalled. "If you think I'm selling out–."

"You'd be foolish not to. I'll pay a reasonable price for Cliff's claim. You're just a green-horn anyhow. The claim's worthless to you."

"Maybe," Pete said. "But I'm not selling–."

"You'll be sorry," Andy Cramer warned threateningly. The twisted grin was gone from his thick lips. His eyes glinted dangerously. He tried hard to keep the freting horse still.

"You're too danged anxious," Pete Lawson retorted. Anger was growing hot in his throat. "Beat it and don't come back. I'm tired of having you messing around. You spent altogether too much time here before Cliff got killed. Cliff should have kicked you off. He didn't. But I will. Get going!"

Andy Cramer sat his nervous horse. His face was blank. But deep in his eyes burned a malignant hate. High over head a red-tail whistled querulously. The whisper of the water down the shallow course of the gully was the only other sound. Pete felt perspiration pop. If Cramer tried to pull a gun.

Pete slid his revolver out. Without shifting his eyes from the man on the horse, he fired into the shallow water.

Andy Cramer's jitterish horse reared, whirled, almost throwing the swearing grider. A second later the animal was thundering away across the valley toward the hills.

* * *

It was evening when Pete returned to the lonesome little cabin, where big-hearted Cliff Prentiss had made his humble home.

Pete cooked and ate supper. Restlessness burned within him. He ambled about for a while. He'd ride into the village for a while. But he'd fix the doors and windows first so he'd be able to tell if anyone'd been here, while he was gone. Just in case Andy Cramer tried anything.

Andy Cramer was a tough hombre. Pete knew that. He also knew Cliff Prentiss hadn't been habitually careless. Everyone had a fair idea Cliff had been taking out ore that assayed high. There were stories that he'd struck the mother lode.

Pete Lawson rode into the village. He passed Red Blaze's saloon, rode on along the wide, dusty street. In front of the post office he found Sheriff McKinley chewing the fat with a couple of waddies from the Bar X3. They all sized Pete up curiously. Pete said, "Looking for you, sheriff. When you've a chance I'd like to talk to you, private."

The punchers exchanged glances. "We'll git going, Pete. Talk ahead."

Pete glanced about uneasily. Sheriff McKinley watched with steel-grey eyes. "What's on your mind, son? You seem anxious."

Pete Lawson answered, "Just . . . things. I've kind of been wondering about Cliff Prentiss."

"What about Cliff?"

"Well, him and . . . Andy Cramer. You know Andy'd been hanging around a lot. More than he had business to. Cliff was a good hearted cuss. Everyone knows that. Everyone in town's borrowed a grub staff off him one time or another. He took me out there when my health was about shot." Pete hesitated, plunged once more. "Cliff must have knowed something was going to happen to him. He'd signed everything over to me. He wouldn't have if he hadn't reckoned on trouble. Andy Cramer's the only one–."

A burst of laughter rolled out of the saloon down the street. The soft drumming of hoof beats announced the arrival of a newcomer through the warm stillness. Under a near-by porch a cricket fiddled furiously.

"Pete," Sheriff McKinley said softly, "Andy Cramer's bad medicine. Don't get into a mess with him–."

"He came around today talking about buying the claim. I told him nothing doing. To beat it. He was having a hell of a time holding that roan of his. I sneaked my gun out, fired it. The horse bolted with Andy cussing mad and sawing like hell on the reins!" Pete Lawson grinned into the darkness. But that feeling of uneasiness was still within him, making him want to look in back all the time.

"Andy'll be sore all right," McKinley agreed. "You'd better watch your step, Pete. I know Andy pretty well. If I could I'd sure pull him in. But he's a slick article. If you know anything about Cliff–."

Pete shook his head. "Nothing definate. It just didn't ring the bell Cliff being as careless as all that. Andy Cramer might have knowed Cliff struck it rich. Andy might have blown the whole shooting match, Cliff and all. He just tried to buy *me* off. Failing that–."

"Could be. Better watch your step, son."

* * *

Pete Lawson went back by a round-about way. He hobbled the mare, walked ahead on foot to look things over.

The night seemed specially clear. The stars were bright overhead. The wind through the trees was a soft lonesome whisper. Pete Lawson walked to the edge of the woods, stood looking across the clearing to the cabin. It had belonged to Cliff Prentiss once. Cliff was gone now. But he'd left everything to Pete.

Pete made a break for it, reached the cabin door. Examination told him that it hadn't been tampered with. He felt vague relief, yanked the latch string, went in.

He stood in the darkness listening, thinking, wondering why he had to harbor that uneasy feeling so continuously. He felt his way to the table. He drew a deep breath, struck a match.

The shadows pressed back away from the cone of light. Pete peered about. He lifted the chimney of the lamp, turned up the wick, applied the match. The shadows retreated from sight. The cabin came out into the open; the bunks, the old range with its sagging chimney, the skillet and pots hanging against the wall.

Everything seemed in order. Pete went over to the window. He bent forward. His heart leaped suddenly. The little piece of grass he'd stuck in there for a marker was gone. The window had been opened!

"Something wrong," Pete muttered half aloud feeling the hair at the back of his neck creep. "Danged if I can't feel it. Like something was going to happen."

He crossed the room suddenly, leaped through the lean-to. He sprinted across the open, plunged into the darkness of the woods. He stopped, turned panting.

The roar of the explosion was ear-splitting. Where the cabin had been a moment before, there was now nothing but a huge sheet of flame, outlining flying bits of logs, chunke of wood. Debris began to spatter down, bigger chunks striking the ground heavily, dirt and stones and dust, and the smell of smoldering wood.

Darkness spread over it again. Silence followed, tense, deep brooding silence. Pete Lawson felt his knees trembling. He clenched his hands, clinging to his rifle. His eyes probed the darkness. Thank God he'd played that hunch.

Pete Lawson stiffened. A figure stepped out of the woods not fifteen feet from him. The figure of a squat man, wearing a sombrero pushed back on his head.

"Scratch ceiling!" Pete Lawson spat out. "Up with 'em, Cramer. Up–."

Andy Cramer spun, his hands jabbing upward automatically. Pete advanced. Andy's face was a pale oval, his thick lips pulled away from his panting breath.

"You can't prove anything," he snarled. "What are you sticking me up for? Put down that fool gun. It might go off–."

"You're danged right it might!" Pete admitted grimly. "And about proving anything–."

"I heard the explosion!" Andy yelled angrily. "You damned fool, I had nothing to do with it. I stopped off to see what it was all about. Y'can't blame me–."

"You caused Cliff Prentiss' death!" Pete accused. "I know it whether there's proof or not. You're going to *admit* the truth, Cramer. Right now. If you don't . . . I'm going to blow you right down where you belong with a stick of Cliff Prentiss' dynamite. I'll give you a taste of your own medicine. I'll blow you to hell and back, and swear I don't know anything about it. Just like you did with Cliff. Like you tried to do with me–."

Andy Cramer lunged. He struck the muzzle of Pete's gun aside. Andy's right hand dipped, flashed out. A tongue of fire licked out. Something smashed into Pete's shoulder. He remembered crying out, dropping the rifle, stumbling to hands and knees.

He heard Andy's sullen laughter. "You damned young squirt. You're not smart enough for me! Sure I finished Cliff off. I'll finish you, too. I doped the lamp with liquid explosive. If you'd stayed in there long enough–."

"I knew you were . . . in the cabin . . ."

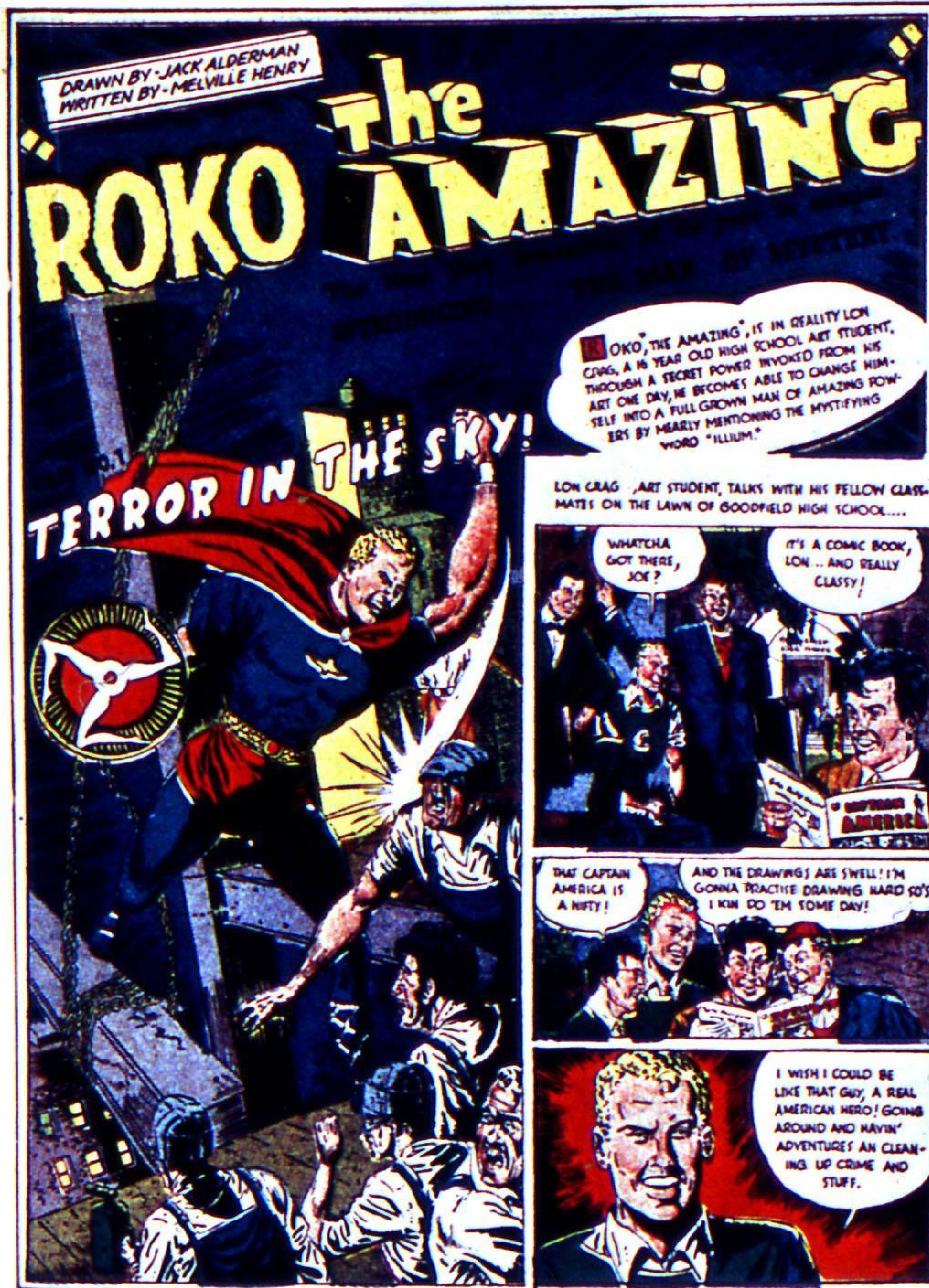
"No one else will! I'm going to finish you off. Now. No one'll be able to prove anything; no one'll bother with this claim. Except me when I come back–."

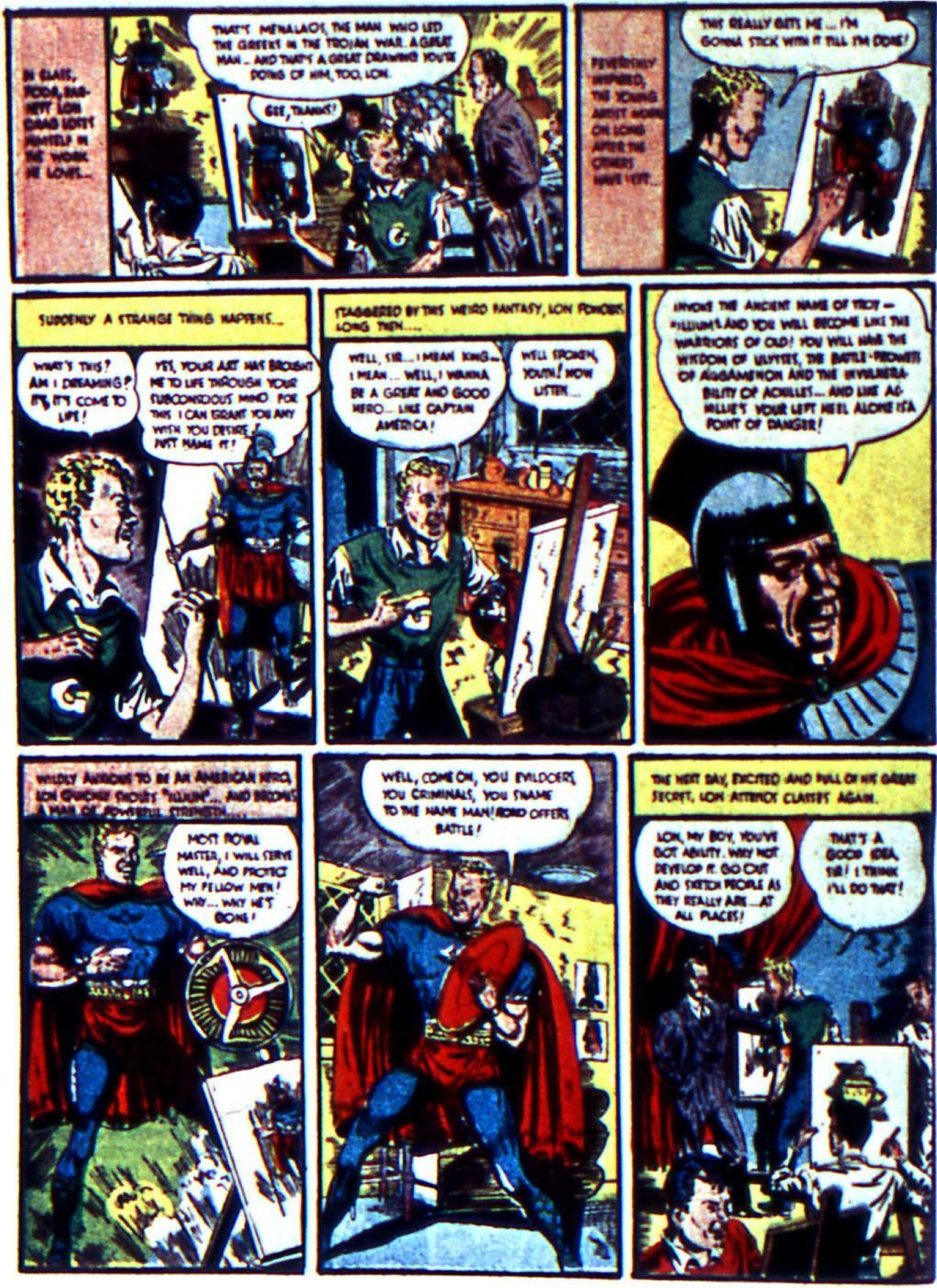
Andy Cramer paused. Pete felt the slow torture of pain spreading through his body.

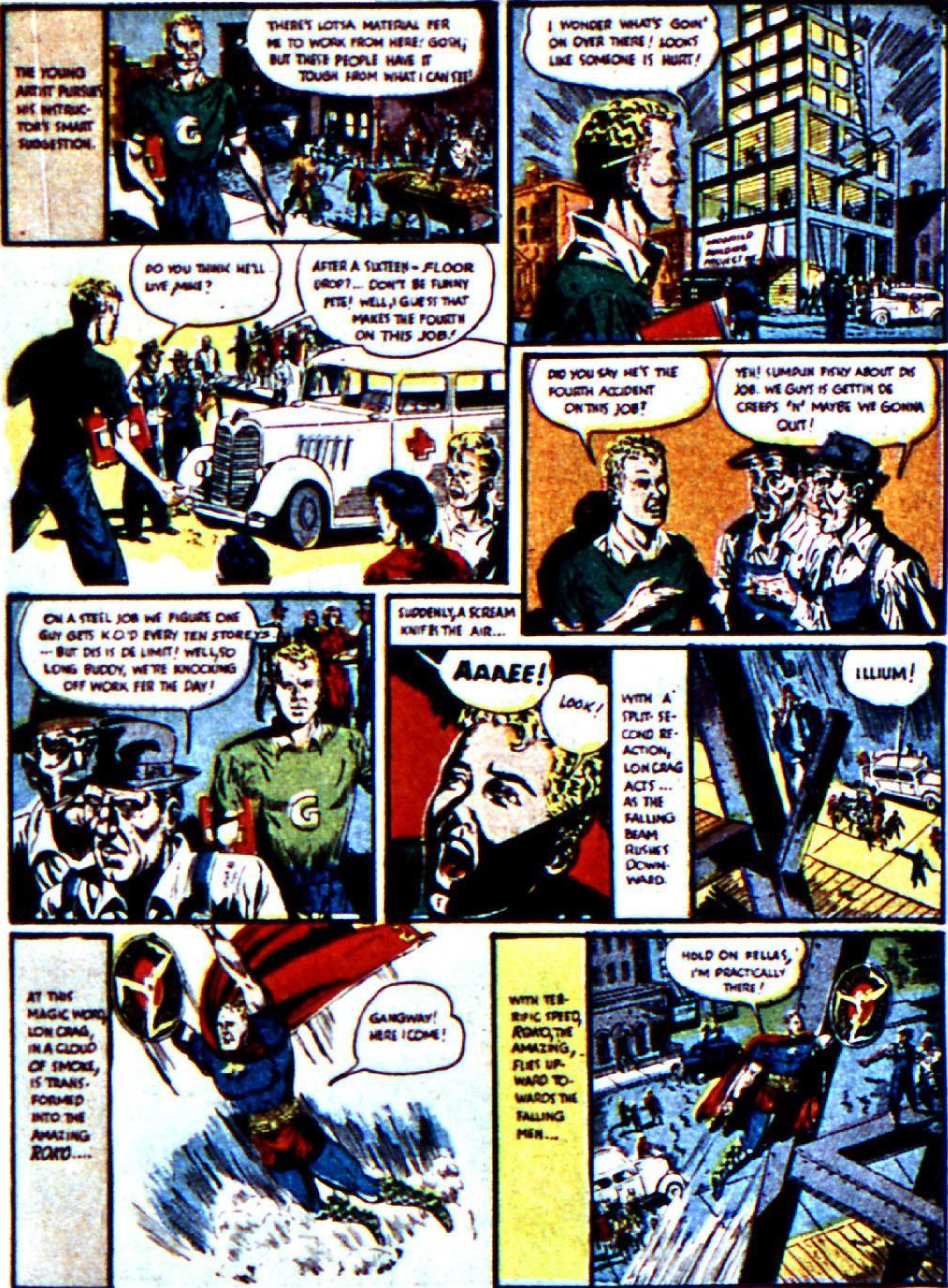
A new voice addressed them. The stern, even voice of Sheriff McKinley. "All right, Cramer. Don't move. I heard that speech of yours. Nice confession. Drop that gun. Drop it!"

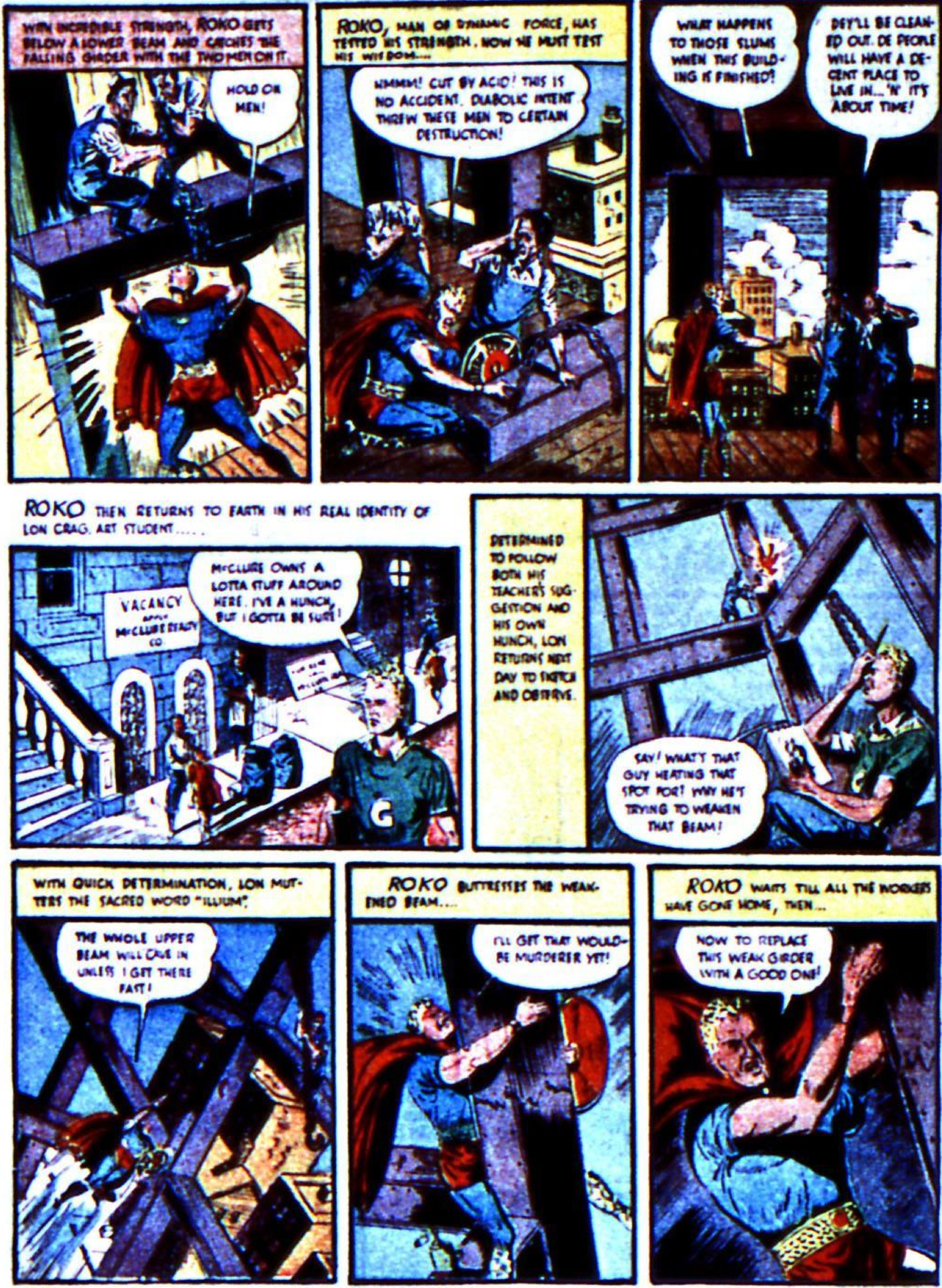
Sheriff McKinley came forward, followed by the two waddies he'd been talking to in town. "I knew what you were after. So did Cliff Prentiss. He told me himself. Cliff was good-hearted, but smart. Smarter than you. He knew human nature. He knew you'd try this when he was gone. He warned me.

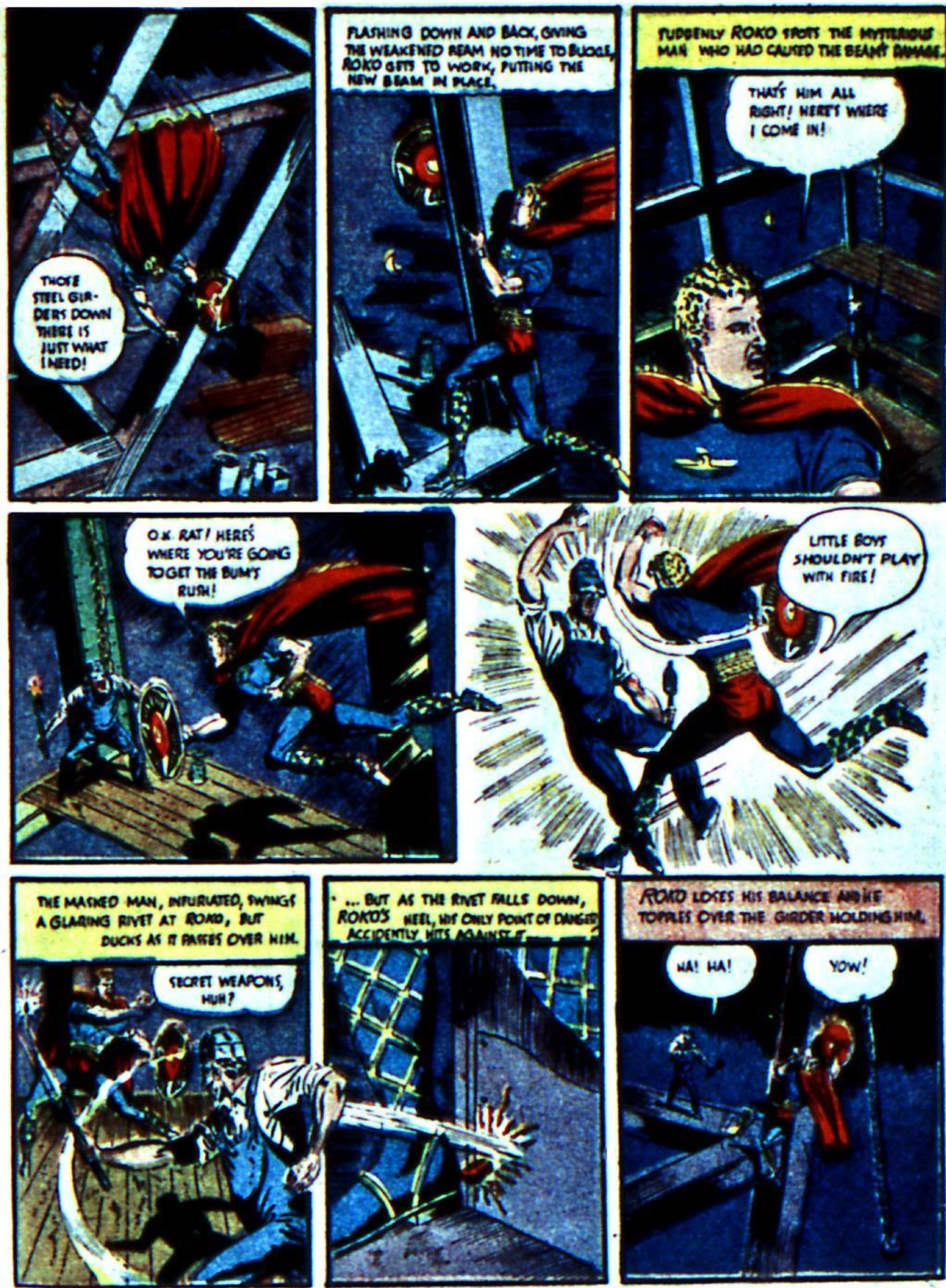
"But I couldn't do anything till you tried. Now I've got the goods on you proper, Cramer. The county jury'll make short work of your case. You bumped Cliff off, but he trapped you just the same after he was dead. Okey, boys. Let's go."

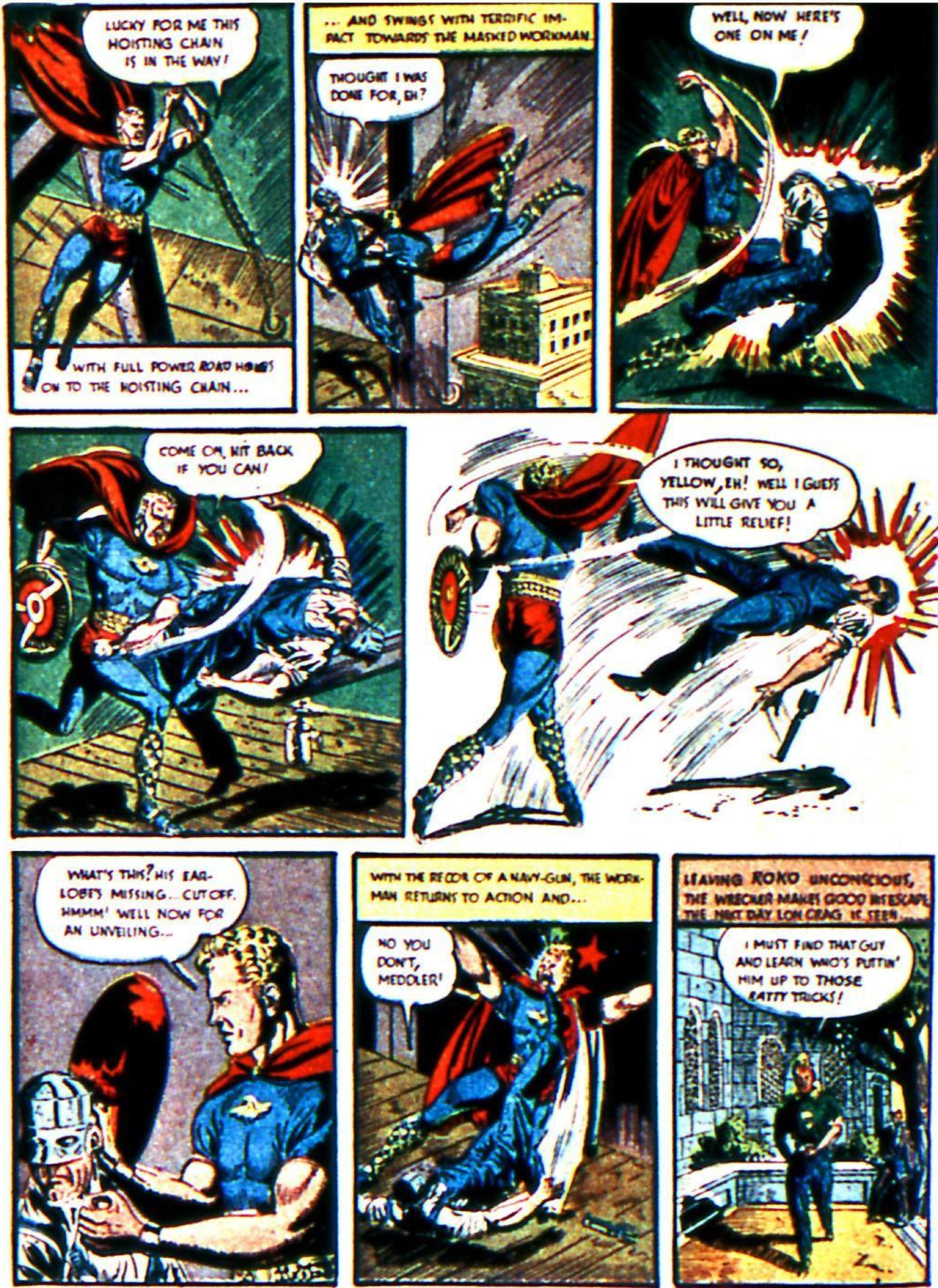

DRAWN BY - JACK ALDERMAN
WRITTEN BY - MELVILLE HENRY
"ROKO the AMAZING"
TERROR IN THE SKY!
"ROKO", THE AMAZING", IS IN REALITY LON CRAG, A 16 YEAR OLD HIGH SCHOOL ART STUDENT. THROUGH A SECRET POWER INVOKED FROM HIS ART ONE DAY, HE BECOMES ABLE TO CHANGE HIMSELF INTO A FULL GROWN MAN OF AMAZING POWERS BY MEARLY MENTIONING THE MYSTIFYING WORD "ILLIUM."
LON CRAG, ART STUDENT, TALKS WITH HIS FELLOW CLASSMATES ON THE LAWN OF GOODFIELD HIGH SCHOOL....
WHATCHA GOT THERE, JOE?
IT'S A COMIC BOOK, LON... AND REALLY CLASSY!
CAPTAIN AMERICA
THAT CAPTAIN AMERICA IS A NIFTY!
AND THE DRAWINGS ARE SWELL! I'M GONNA PRACTISE DRAWING HARD SO'S I KIN DO 'EM SOME DAY!
I WISH I COULD BE LIKE THAT GUY, A REAL AMERICAN HERO! GOING AROUND AND HAVIN' ADVENTURES AN CLEANING UP CRIME AND STUFF.

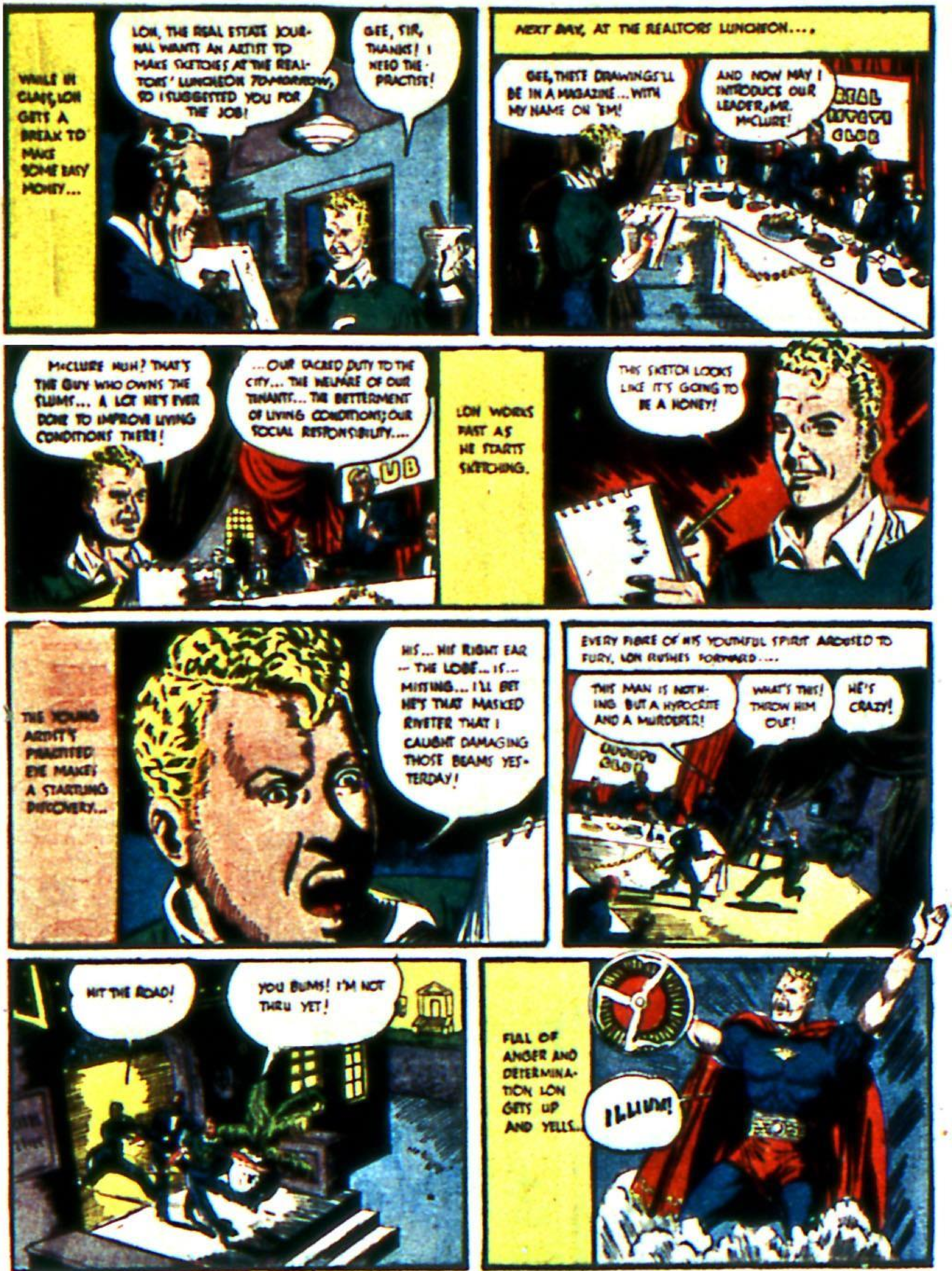

IN CLASS, RODA, BARNETT LON CHAS LOSES HIMSELF IN THE WORK HE LOVES...
THAT'S MENALAOS, THE MAN WHO LED THE GREEKS IN THE TROJAN WAR. A GREAT MAN... AND THAT'S A GREAT DRAWING YOU'RE DOING OF HIM, TOO, LON.
GEE, THANKS!
FEVERISHLY INSPIRED, THE YOUNG ARTIST WORKS ON LONG AFTER THE OTHERS HAVE LEFT...
THIS REALLY GETS ME... I'M GONNA STICK WITH IT TILL I'M DONE!
SUDDENLY A STRANGE THING HAPPENS...
WHAT'S THIS? AM I DREAMING? IT'S, IT'S COME TO LIFE!
YES, YOUR ART HAS BROUGHT ME TO LIFE THROUGH YOUR SUBCONSCIOUS MIND. FOR THIS I CAN GRANT YOU ANY WISH YOU DESIRE! JUST NAME IT!
STAGGERED BY THIS WEIRD FANTASY, LON PONDERS LONG THEN....
WELL, SIR... I MEAN KING... I MEAN... WELL, I WANNA BE A GREAT AND GOOD HERO... LIKE CAPTAIN AMERICA!
WELL SPOKEN, YOUTH! NOW LISTEN...
INVOKE THE ANCIENT NAME OF TROY — "ILLIUM"! AND YOU WILL BECOME LIKE THE WARRIORS OF OLD! YOU WILL HAVE THE WISDOM OF ULYSSES, THE BATTLE-PROWESS OF AGGAMENON AND THE INVULNERABILITY OF ACHILLES... AND LIKE ACHILLES' YOUR LEFT HEEL ALONE IS A POINT OF DANGER!
WILDLY ANXIOUS TO BE AN AMERICAN HERO, LON GUCHO SHOUTS "ILLIUM"... AND BECOMES A MAN OF POWERFUL STRENGTH...
MOST ROYAL MASTER, I WILL SERVE WELL, AND PROTECT MY FELLOW MEN! WHY... WHY HE'S GONE!
WELL, COME ON, YOU EVILDOERS, YOU CRIMINALS, YOU SHAME TO THE NAME MAN! RORO OFFERS BATTLE!
THE NEXT DAY, EXCITED AND FULL OF HIS GREAT SECRET, LON ATTENDS CLASSES AGAIN.
LON, MY BOY, YOU'VE GOT ABILITY. WHY NOT DEVELOP IT. GO OUT AND SKETCH PEOPLE AS THEY REALLY ARE...AT ALL PLACES!
THAT'S A GOOD IDEA, SIR! I THINK I'LL DO THAT!

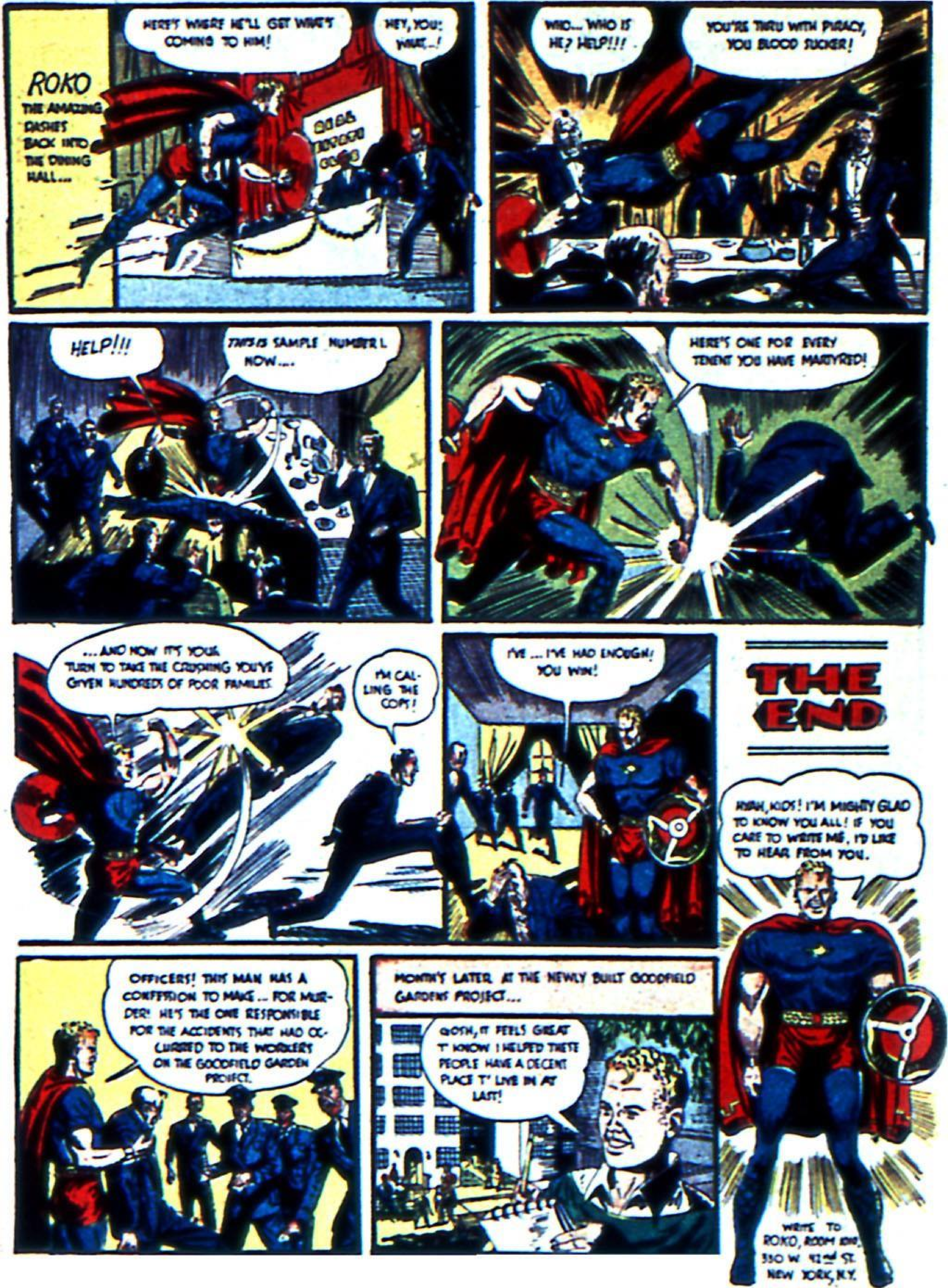

THE YOUNG ARTIST PURSUES HIS INSTRUCTOR'S SMART SUGGESTION.
THERE'S LOTSA MATERIAL FER ME TO WORK FROM HERE! GOSH, BUT THESE PEOPLE HAVE IT TOUGH FROM WHAT I CAN SEE!
I WONDER WHAT'S GOIN' ON OVER THERE! LOOKS LIKE SOMEONE IS HURT!
DO YOU THINK HE'LL LIVE, MIKE?
AFTER A SIXTEEN-FLOOR DROP?... DON'T BE FUNNY PETE! WELL, I GUESS THAT MAKES THE FOURTH ON THIS JOB!
DID YOU SAY HE'S THE FOURTH ACCIDENT ON THIS JOB?
YEH! SUMPUN FISHY ABOUT DIS JOB. WE GUYS IS GETTIN DE CREEPS 'N' MAYBE WE GONNA QUIT!
ON A STEEL JOB WE FIGURE ONE GUY GETS K.O'D EVERY TEN STOREYS. --BUT DIS IS DE LIMIT! WELL, SO LONG BUDDY, WE'RE KNOCKING OFF WORK FER THE DAY!
SUDDENLY, A SCREAM KNIFES THE AIR...
AAAEE!
LOOK!
WITH A SPLIT-SECOND REACTION, LON CRAG ACTS... AS THE FALLING BEAM RUSHES DOWNWARD.
ILLIUM!
AT THIS MAGIC WORD, LON CRAG, IN A CLOUD OF SMOKE, IS TRANSFORMED INTO THE AMAZING ROKO....
GANGWAY! HERE I COME!
WITH TERRIFIC SPEED, ROKO, THE AMAZING, FLIES UPWARD TOWARDS THE FALLING MEN....
HOLD ON FELLAS, I'M PRACTICALLY THERE!

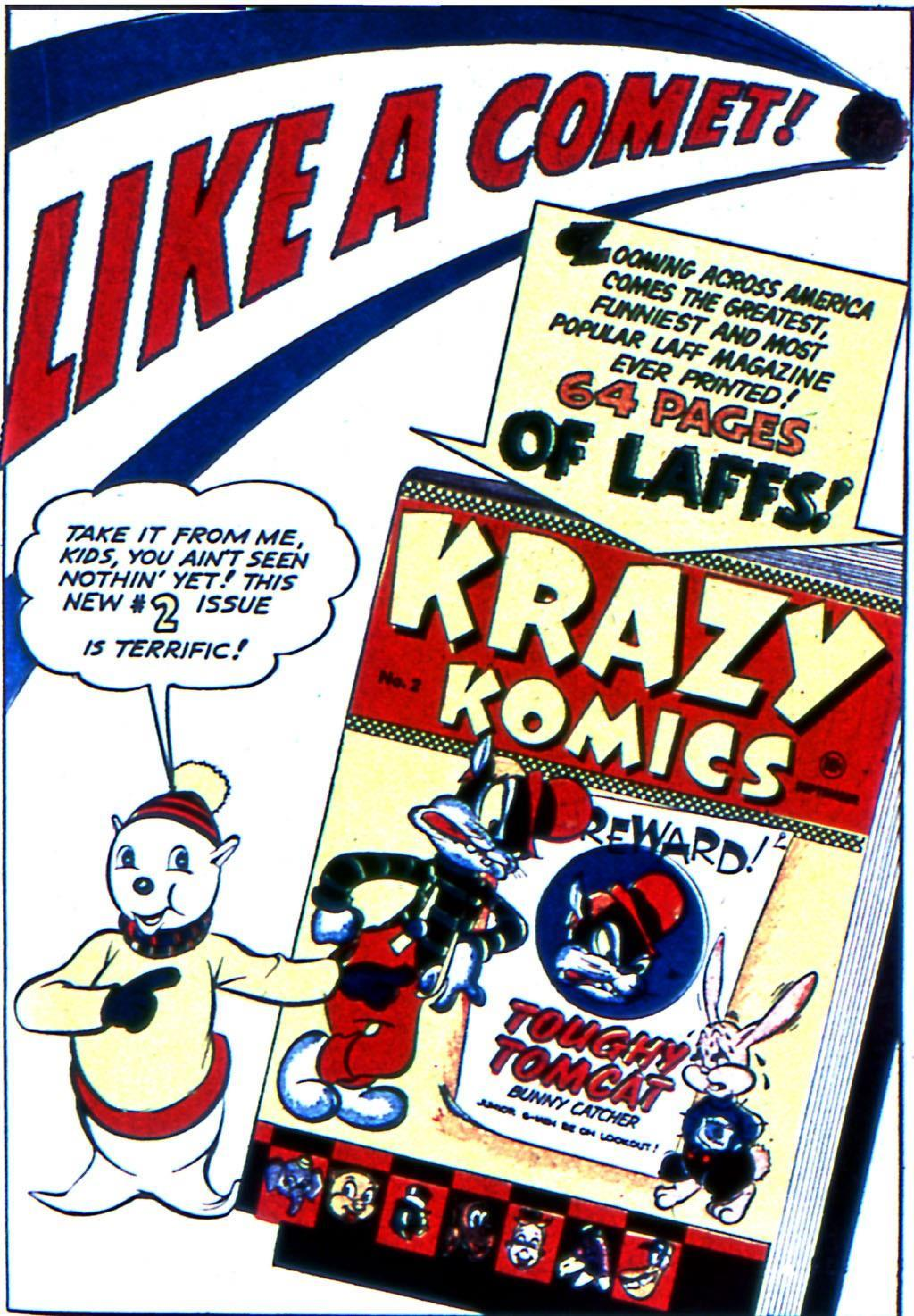

WITH INCREDIBLE STRENGTH, ROKO GETS BELOW A LOWER BEAM AND CATCHES THE FALLING GIRDER WITH THE TWO MEN ON IT.
HOLD ON MEN!
ROKO, MAN OF DYNAMIC FORCE, HAS TESTED HIS STRENGTH. NOW HE MUST TEST HIS WISDOM....
HMMM! CUT BY ACID! THIS IS NO ACCIDENT. DIABOLIC INTENT THREW THESE MEN TO CERTAIN DESTRUCTION!
WHAT HAPPENS TO THOSE SLUMS WHEN THIS BUILDING IS FINISHED?
DEY'LL BE CLEANED OUT. DE PEOPLE WILL HAVE A DECENT PLACE TO LIVE IN... 'N' IT'S ABOUT TIME!
ROKO THEN RETURNS TO EARTH IN HIS REAL IDENTITY OF LON CRAG, ART STUDENT.....
VACANCY APPLY McCLURE REALTY CO.
McCLURE OWNS A LOTTA STUFF AROUND HERE. I'VE A HUNCH, BUT I GOTTA BE SURE!
G
DETERMINED TO FOLLOW BOTH HIS TEACHER'S SUGGESTION AND HIS OWN HUNCH, LON RETURNS NEXT DAY TO SKETCH AND OBSERVE.
SAY! WHAT'S THAT GUY HEATING THAT SPOT FOR? WHY HE'S TRYING TO WEAKEN THAT BEAM!
WITH QUICK DETERMINATION, LON MUTTERS THE SACRED WORD "ILLIUM".
THE WHOLE UPPER BEAM WILL CAVE IN UNLESS I GET THERE FAST!
ROKO BUTTRESSES THE WEAKENED BEAM....
I'LL GET THAT WOULD-BE MURDERER YET!
ROKO WAITS TILL ALL THE WORKERS HAVE GONE HOME, THEN...
NOW TO REPLACE THIS WEAK GIRDER WITH A GOOD ONE!

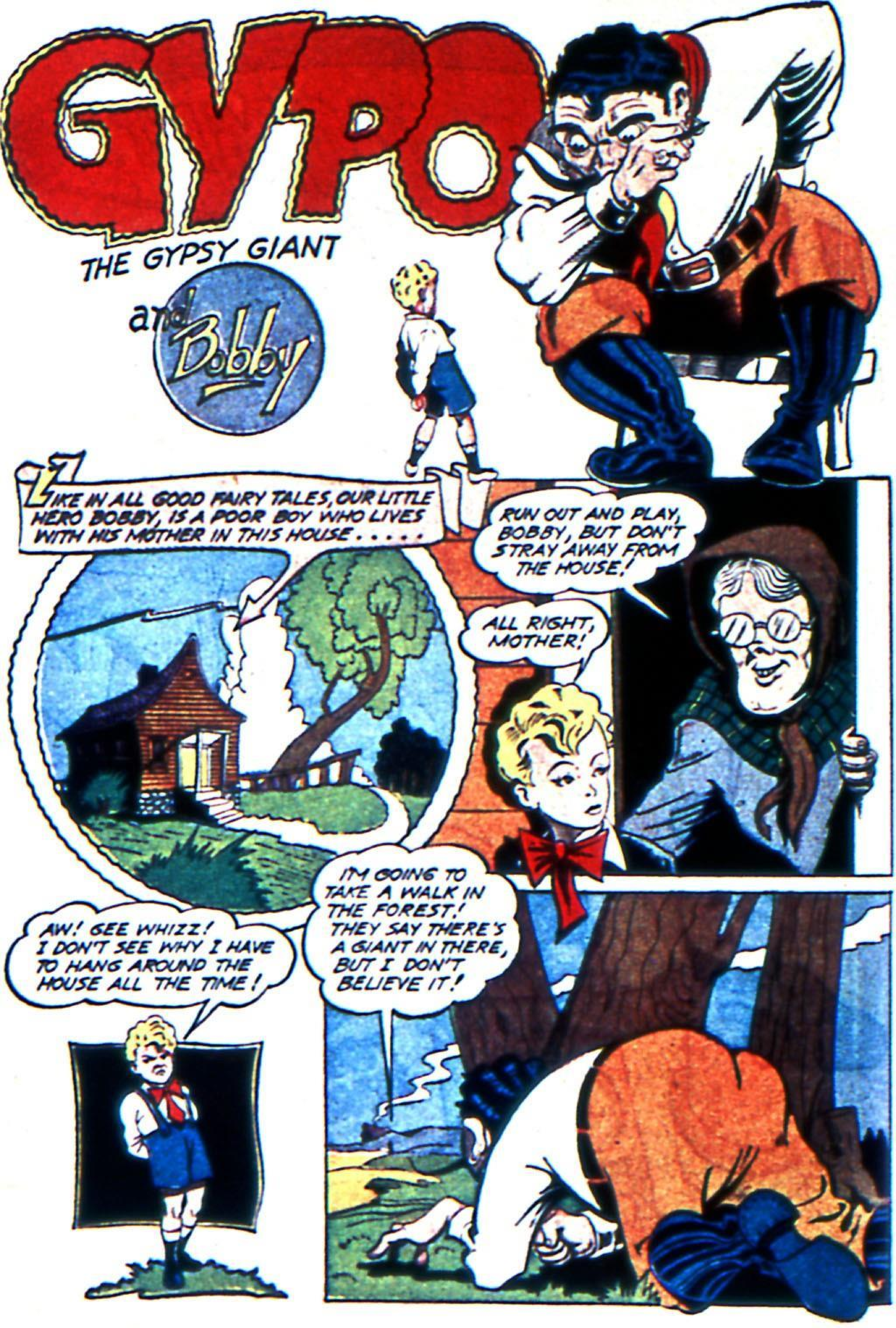

THOSE STEEL GIRDERS DOWN THERE IS JUST WHAT I NEED!
FLASHING DOWN AND BACK, GIVING THE WEAKENED BEAM NO TIME TO BUCKLE, ROKO GETS TO WORK, PUTTING THE NEW BEAM IN PLACE.
SUDDENLY ROKO SPOTS THE MYSTERIOUS MAN WHO HAD CAUSED THE BEAM'S DAMAGE.
THAT'S HIM ALL RIGHT! HERE'S WHERE I COME IN!
O.K. RAT! HERE'S WHERE YOU'RE GOING TO GET THE BUM'S RUSH!
LITTLE BOYS SHOULDN'T PLAY WITH FIRE!
THE MASKED MAN, INFURIATED, SWINGS A GLARING RIVET AT ROKO, BUT DUCKS AS IT PASSES OVER HIM.
SECRET WEAPONS, HUH?
... BUT AS THE RIVET FALLS DOWN, ROKO'S HEEL, HIS ONLY POINT OF DANGER ACCIDENTLY HITS AGAINST IT....
ROKO LOSES HIS BALANCE AND HE TOPPLES OVER THE GIRDER HOLDING HIM.
HA! HA!
YOW!

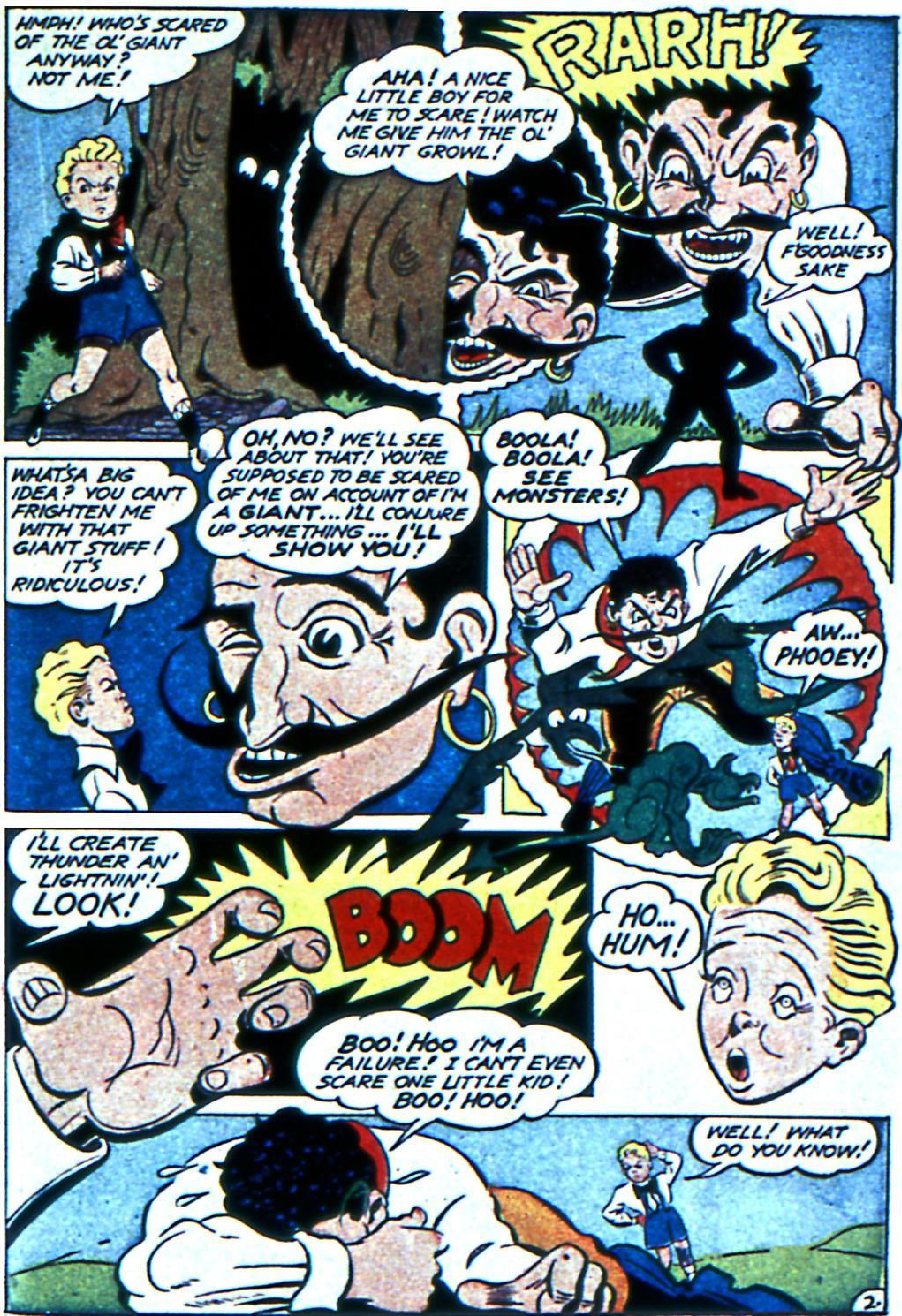

LUCKY FOR ME THIS HOISTING CHAIN IS IN THE WAY!
WITH FULL POWER ROKO HOLDS ON TO THE HOISTING CHAIN...
... AND SWINGS WITH TERRIFIC IMPACT TOWARDS THE MASKED WORKMAN.
THOUGHT I WAS DONE FOR, EH?
WELL, NOW HERE'S ONE ON ME!
COME ON, HIT BACK IF YOU CAN!
I THOUGHT SO, YELLOW, EH! WELL I GUESS THIS WILL GIVE YOU A LITTLE RELIEF!
WHAT'S THIS? HIS EAR-LOBE'S MISSING... CUT OFF. HMMM! WELL NOW FOR AN UNVEILING...
WITH THE RECOIL OF A NAVY-GUN, THE WORKMAN RETURNS TO ACTION AND...
NO YOU DON'T, MEDDLER!
LEAVING ROKO UNCONSCIOUS, THE WRECKER MAKES GOOD HIS ESCAPE. THE NEXT DAY LON CRAG IS SEEN...
I MUST FIND THAT GUY AND LEARN WHO'S PUTTIN' HIM UP TO THOSE RATTY TRICKS!

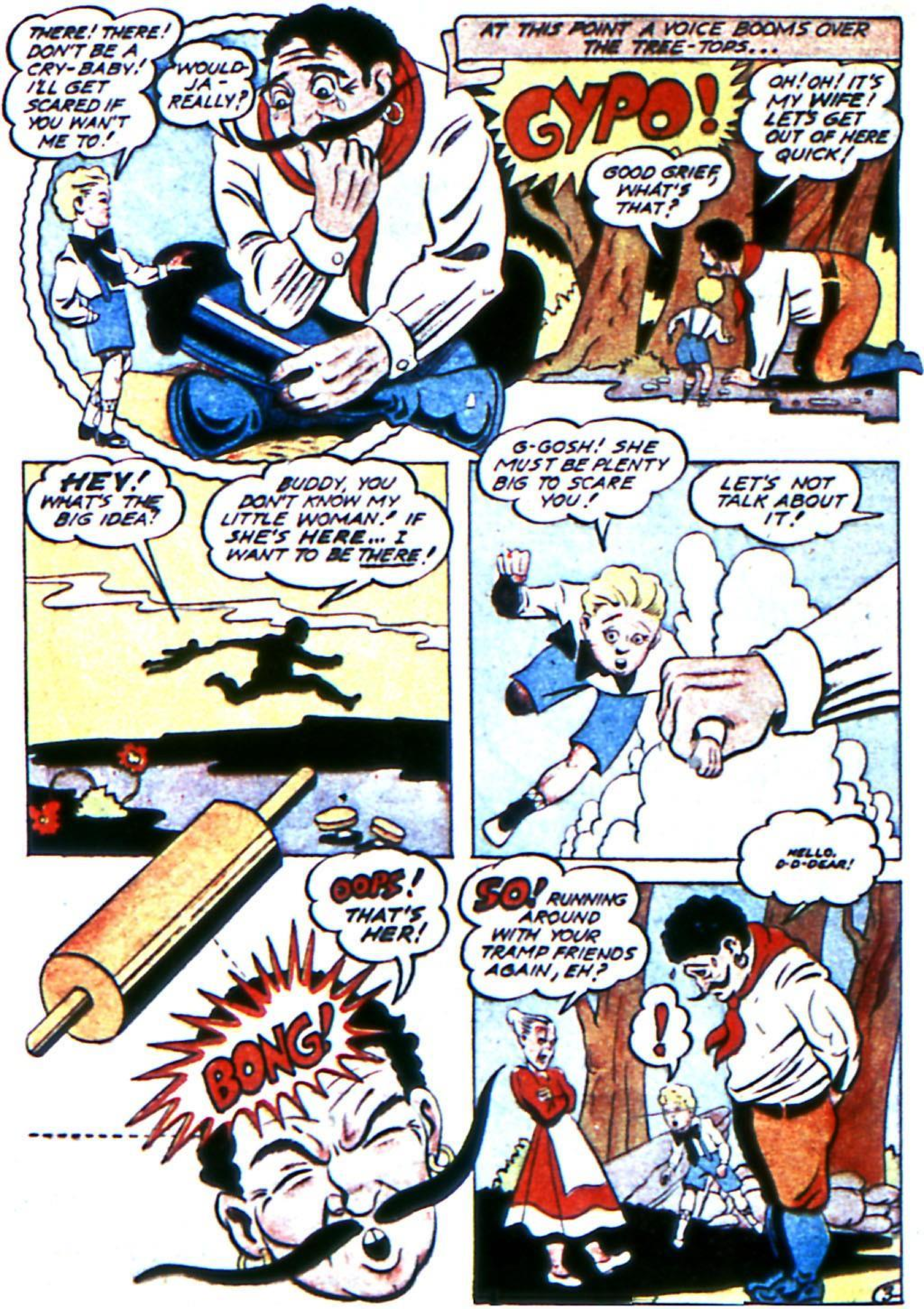

WHILE IN CLASS, LON GETS A BREAK TO MAKE SOME EASY MONEY...
LON, THE REAL ESTATE JOURNAL WANTS AN ARTIST TO MAKE SKETCHES AT THE REALTORS' LUNCHEON TOMORROW, SO I SUGGESTED YOU FOR THE JOB!
GEE, SIR, THANKS! I NEED THE PRACTISE!
NEXT DAY, AT THE REALTORS LUNCHEON...,
GEE, THESE DRAWINGS'LL BE IN A MAGAZINE... WITH MY NAME ON 'EM!
AND NOW MAY I INTRODUCE OUR LEADER, MR. McCLURE!
McCLURE HUH? THAT'S THE GUY WHO OWNS THE SLUMS... A LOT HE'S EVER DONE TO IMPROVE LIVING CONDITIONS THERE!
...OUR SACRED DUTY TO THE CITY... THE WELFARE OF OUR TENANTS... THE BETTERMENT OF LIVING CONDITIONS; OUR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY....
UB
LON WORKS FAST AS HE STARTS SKETCHING.
THIS SKETCH LOOKS LIKE IT'S GOING TO BE A HONEY!
THE YOUNG ARTIST'S PRACTISED EYE MAKES A STARTLING DISCOVERY...
HIS... HIS RIGHT EAR -- THE LOBE... IS... MISSING... I'LL BET HE'S THAT MASKED RIVETER THAT I CAUGHT DAMAGING THOSE BEAMS YESTERDAY!
EVERY FIBRE OF HIS YOUTHFUL SPIRIT AROUSED TO FURY, LON RUSHES FORWARD....
THIS MAN IS NOTHING BUT A HYPOCRITE AND A MURDERER!
WHAT'S THIS! THROW HIM OUT!
HE'S CRAZY!
HIT THE ROAD!
YOU BUMS! I'M NOT THRU YET!
FULL OF ANGER AND DETERMINATION LON GETS UP AND YELLS...
ILLIUM!

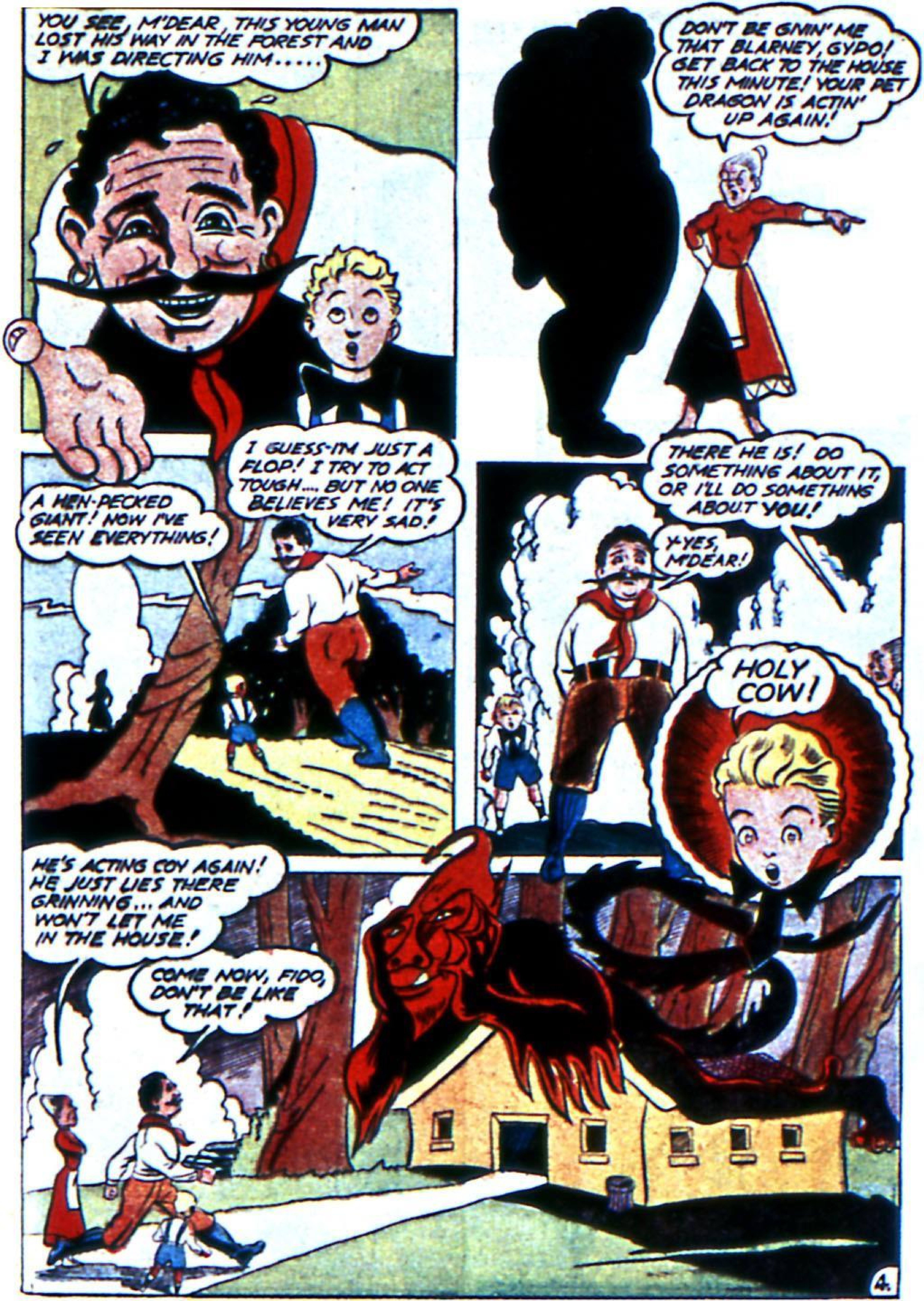

ROKO THE AMAZING DASHES BACK INTO THE DINING HALL...
HERE'S WHERE HE'LL GET WHAT'S COMING TO HIM!
HEY, YOU! WHAT...!
WHO... WHO IS HE? HELP!!!
YOU'RE THRU WITH PIRACY, YOU BLOOD SUCKER!
HELP!!!
THIS IS SAMPLE NUMBER 1. NOW....
HERE'S ONE FOR EVERY TENENT YOU HAVE MARTYRED!
...AND NOW IT'S YOUR TURN TO TAKE THE CRUSHING YOU'VE GIVEN HUNDREDS OF POOR FAMILIES.
I'M CALLING THE COPS!
I'VE ... I'VE HAD ENOUGH! YOU WIN!
THE END
HIYAH, KIDS! I'M MIGHTY GLAD TO KNOW YOU ALL! IF YOU CARE TO WRITE ME, I'D LIKE TO HEAR FROM YOU.
OFFICERS! THIS MAN HAS A CONFESSION TO MAKE... FOR MURDER! HE'S THE ONE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE ACCIDENTS THAT HAD OCCURRED TO THE WORKERS ON THE GOODFIELD GARDEN PROJECT.
MONTHS LATER AT THE NEWLY BUILT GOODFIELD GARDENS PROJECT...
GOSH, IT FEELS GREAT T' KNOW I HELPED THESE PEOPLE HAVE A DECENT PLACE T' LIVE IN AT LAST!
WRITE TO ROKO, ROOM 1010, 330 W. 42nd ST. NEW YORK, N.Y.

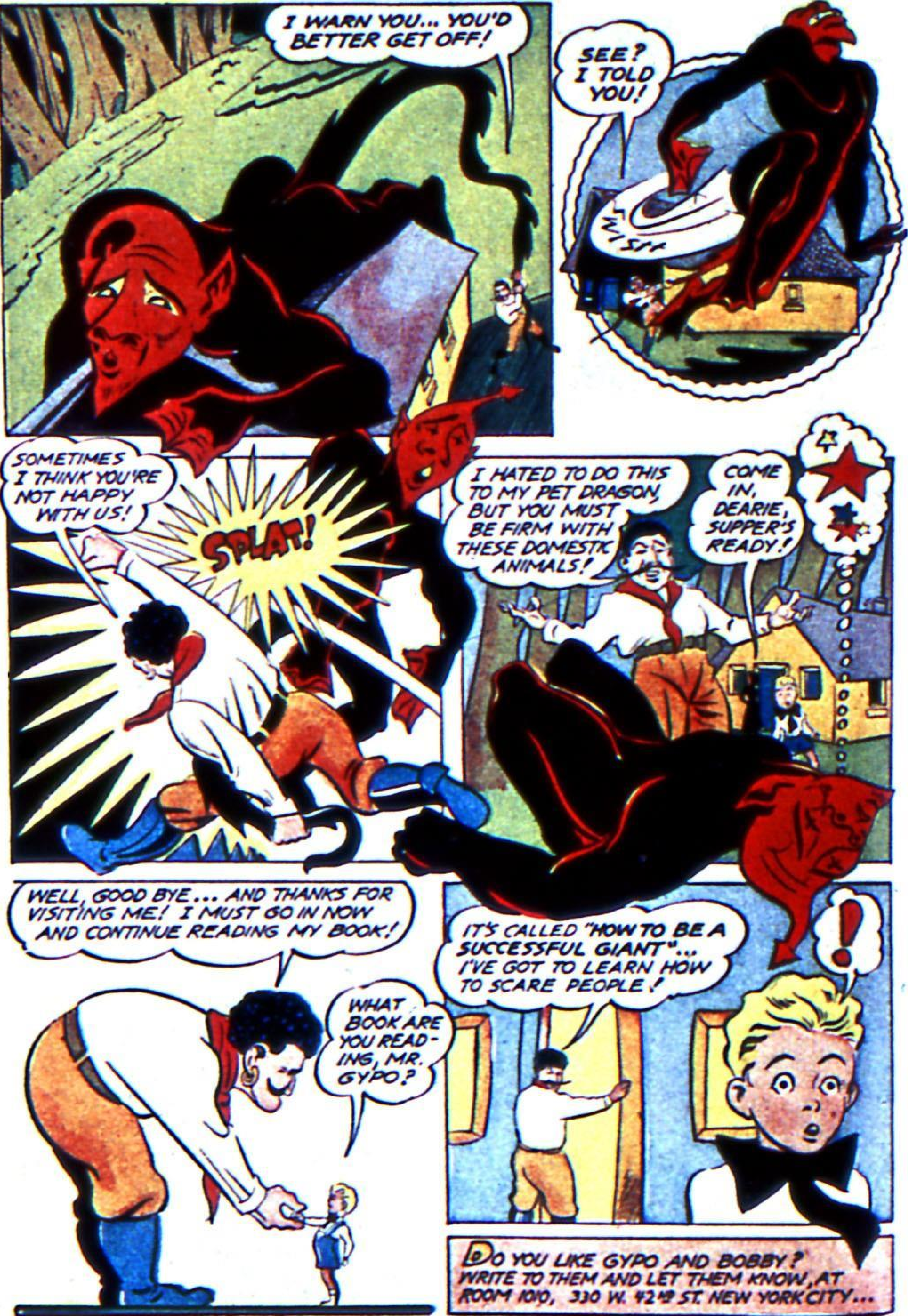

LIKE A COMET!
ZOOMING ACROSS AMERICA COMES THE GREATEST, FUNNIEST AND MOST POPULAR LAFF MAGAZINE EVER PRINTED!
64 PAGES OF LAFFS!
TAKE IT FROM ME, KIDS, YOU AIN'T SEEN NOTHIN' YET! THIS NEW #2 ISSUE IS TERRIFIC!
KRAZY KOMICS
No. 2
REWARD!
TOUGHY TOMCAT
BUNNY CATCHER
JUNIOR G-MEN BE ON LOOKOUT!


GYPO
THE GYPSY GIANT
and Bobby
LIKE IN ALL GOOD FAIRY TALES, OUR LITTLE HERO BOBBY, IS A POOR BOY WHO LIVES WITH HIS MOTHER IN THIS HOUSE . . . .
RUN OUT AND PLAY, BOBBY, BUT DON'T STRAY AWAY FROM THE HOUSE!
ALL RIGHT, MOTHER!
AW! GEE WHIZZ! I DON'T SEE WHY I HAVE TO HANG AROUND THE HOUSE ALL THE TIME!
I'M GOING TO TAKE A WALK IN THE FOREST! THEY SAY THERE'S A GIANT IN THERE, BUT I DON'T BELIEVE IT!

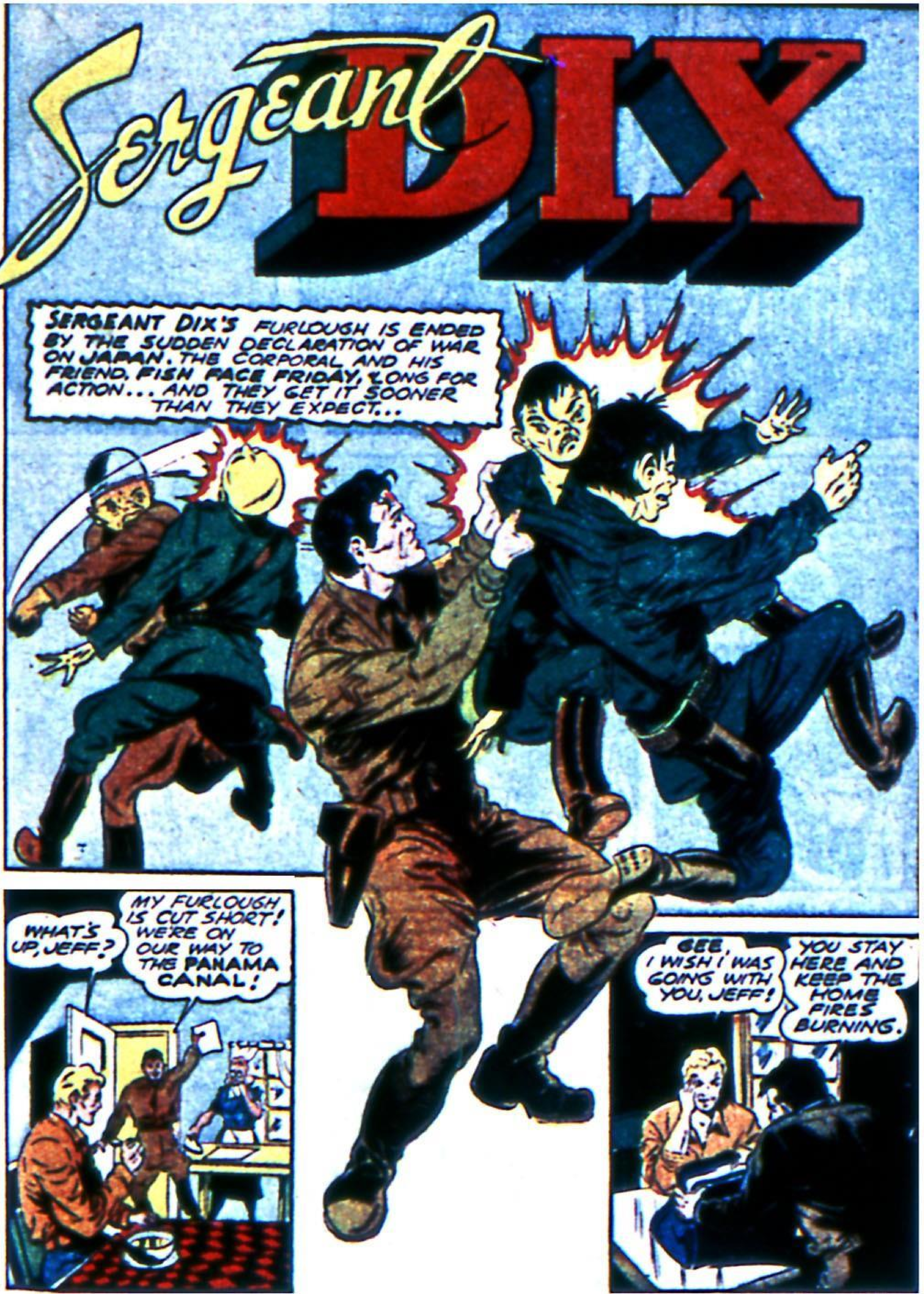

HMPH! WHO'S SCARED OF THE OL' GIANT ANYWAY? NOT ME!
AHA! A NICE LITTLE BOY FOR ME TO SCARE! WATCH ME GIVE HIM THE OL' GIANT GROWL!
RARH!
WELL! F'GOODNESS SAKE
WHAT'SA BIG IDEA? YOU CAN'T FRIGHTEN ME WITH THAT GIANT STUFF! IT'S RIDICULOUS!
OH, NO? WE'LL SEE ABOUT THAT! YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO BE SCARED OF ME ON ACCOUNT OF I'M A GIANT... I'LL CONJURE UP SOMETHING... I'LL SHOW YOU!
BOOLA! BOOLA! SEE MONSTERS!
AW... PHOOEY!
I'LL CREATE THUNDER AN' LIGHTNIN'! LOOK!
BOOM
HO... HUM!
BOO! HOO I'M A FAILURE! I CAN'T EVEN SCARE ONE LITTLE KID! BOO! HOO!
WELL! WHAT DO YOU KNOW!

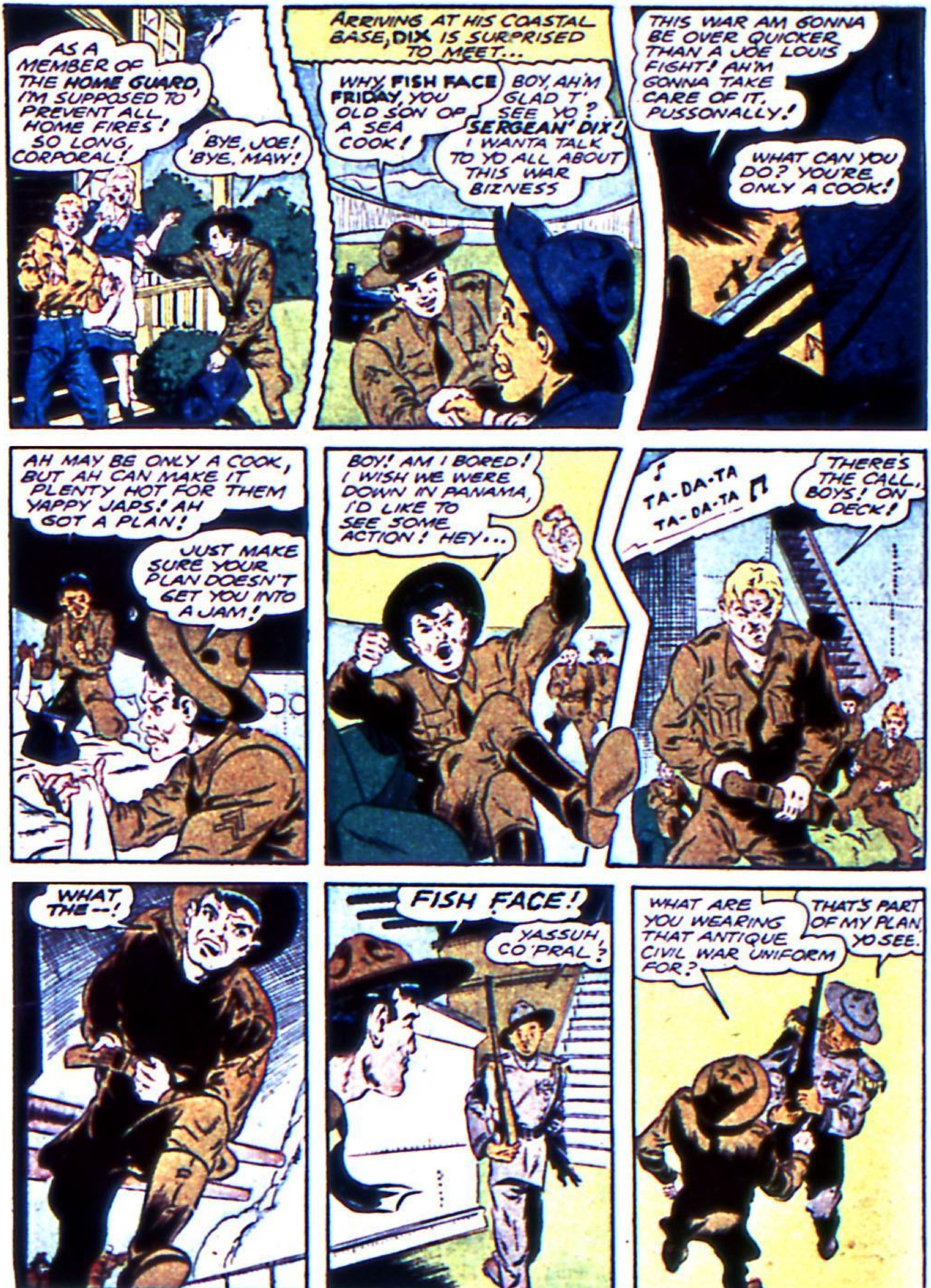

THERE! THERE! DON'T BE A CRY-BABY! I'LL GET SCARED IF YOU WAN'T ME TO!
WOULD-JA-REALLY?
AT THIS POINT A VOICE BOOMS OVER THE TREE-TOPS...
GYPO!
OH! OH! IT'S MY WIFE! LET'S GET OUT OF HERE QUICK!
GOOD GRIEF, WHAT'S THAT?
HEY! WHAT'S THE BIG IDEA!
BUDDY, YOU DON'T KNOW MY LITTLE WOMAN! IF SHE'S HERE... I WANT TO BE THERE!
G-GOSH! SHE MUST BE PLENTY BIG TO SCARE YOU!
LET'S NOT TALK ABOUT IT!
OOPS! THAT'S HER!
BONG!
HELLO. D-D-DEAR!
SO! RUNNING AROUND WITH YOUR TRAMP FRIENDS AGAIN, EH?
!

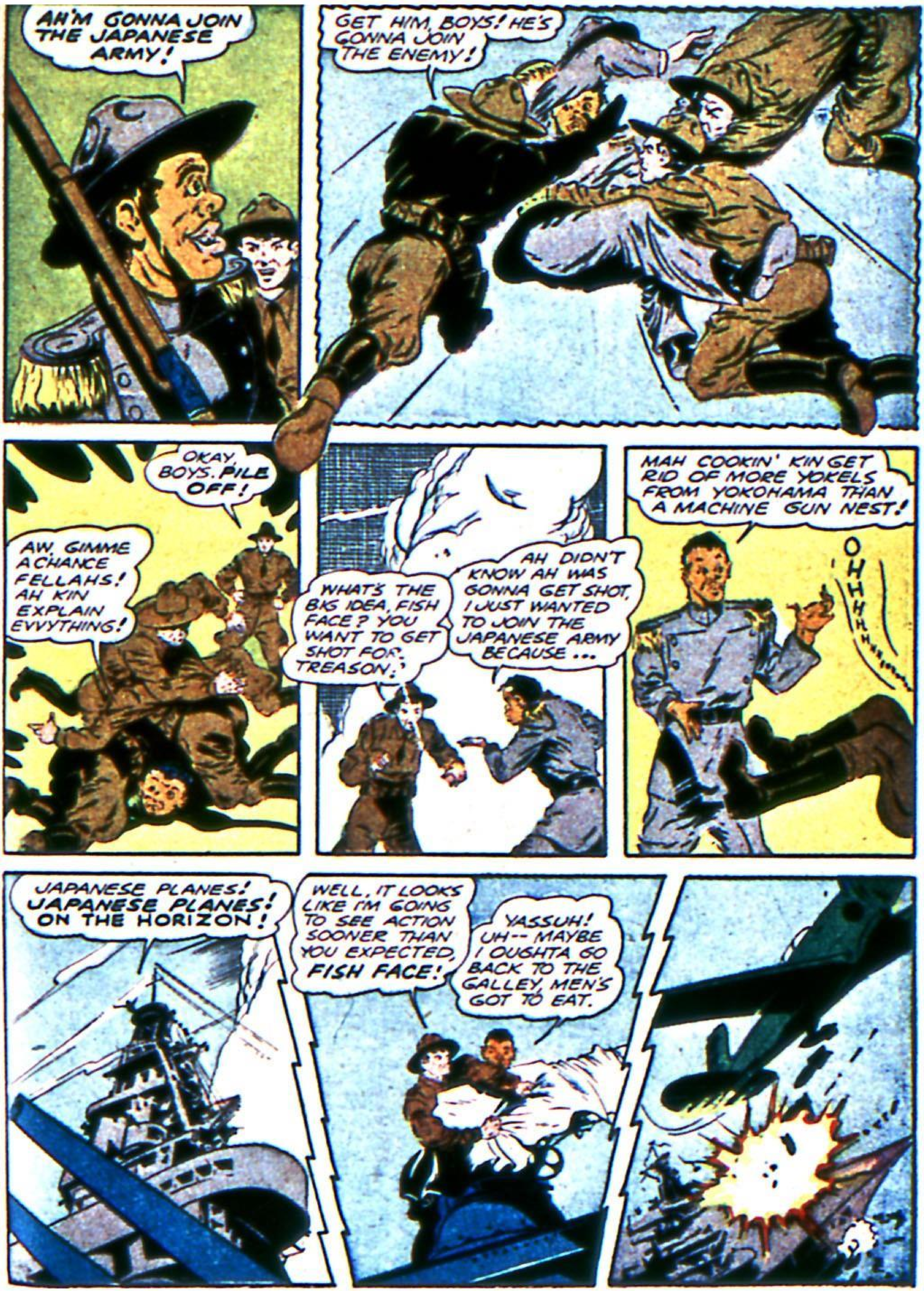

YOU SEE, M'DEAR, THIS YOUNG MAN LOST HIS WAY IN THE FOREST AND I WAS DIRECTING HIM.....
DON'T BE GIVIN' ME THAT BLARNEY, GYPO! GET BACK TO THE HOUSE THIS MINUTE! YOUR PET DRAGON IS ACTIN' UP AGAIN!
A HEN-PECKED GIANT! NOW I'VE SEEN EVERYTHING!
I GUESS-I'M JUST A FLOP! I TRY TO ACT TOUGH.... BUT NO ONE BELIEVES ME! IT'S VERY SAD!
THERE HE IS! DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT, OR I'LL DO SOMETHING ABOUT YOU!
Y-YES, M'DEAR!
HOLY COW!
HE'S ACTING COY AGAIN! HE JUST LIES THERE GRINNING... AND WON'T LET ME IN THE HOUSE!
COME NOW, FIDO, DON'T BE LIKE THAT!

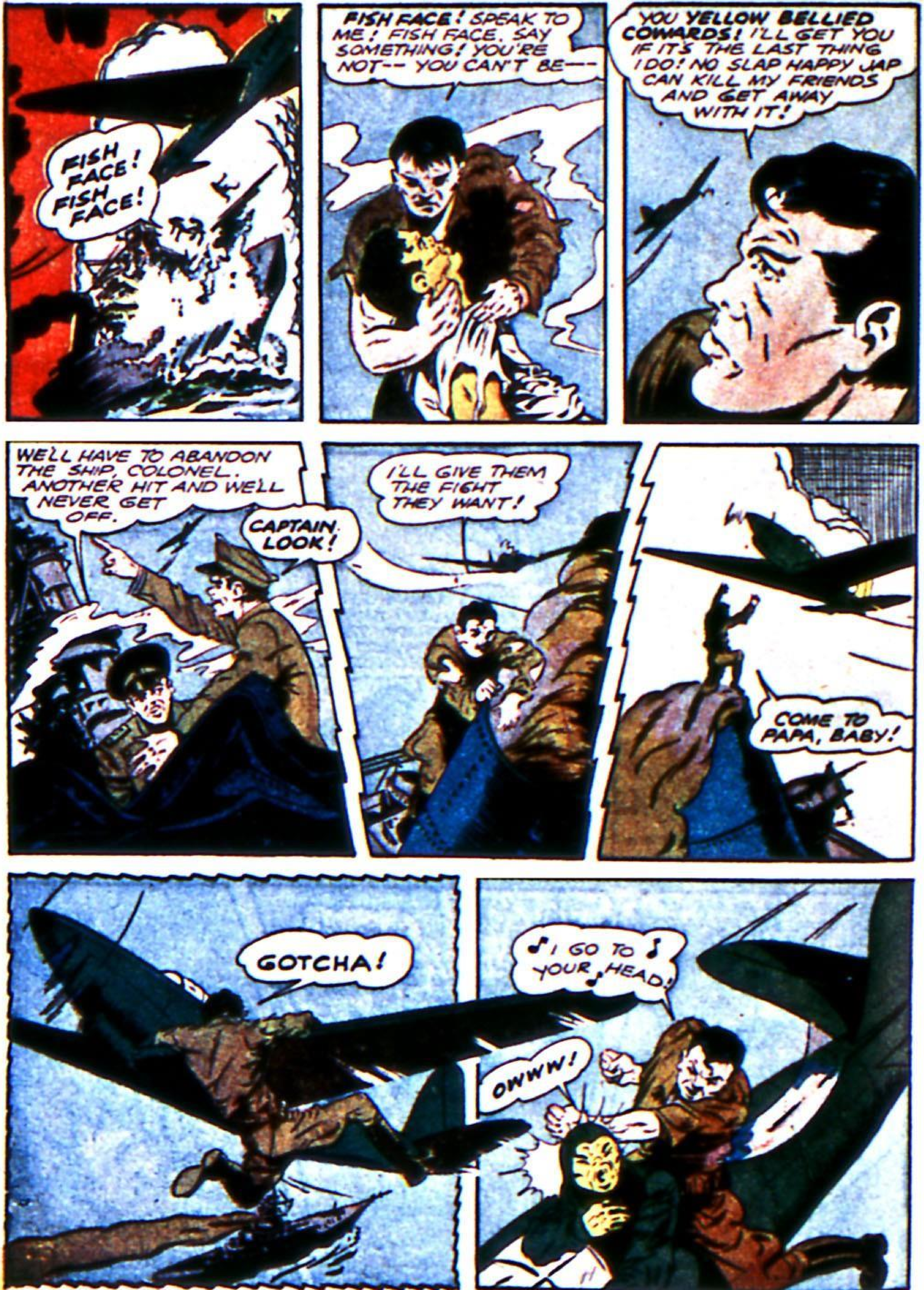

I WARN YOU... YOU'D BETTER GET OFF!
SEE? I TOLD YOU!
SWISH
SOMETIMES I THINK YOU'RE NOT HAPPY WITH US!
SPLAT!
I HATED TO DO THIS TO MY PET DRAGON, BUT YOU MUST BE FIRM WITH THESE DOMESTIC ANIMALS!
COME IN, DEARIE, SUPPER'S READY!
WELL, GOOD BYE... AND THANKS FOR VISITING ME! I MUST GO IN NOW AND CONTINUE READING MY BOOK!
WHAT BOOK ARE YOU READING, MR. GYPO?
IT'S CALLED "HOW TO BE A SUCCESSFUL GIANT"... I'VE GOT TO LEARN HOW TO SCARE PEOPLE!
!
DO YOU LIKE GYPO AND BOBBY? WRITE TO THEM AND LET THEM KNOW, AT ROOM 1010, 330 W. 42ND ST. NEW YORK CITY...

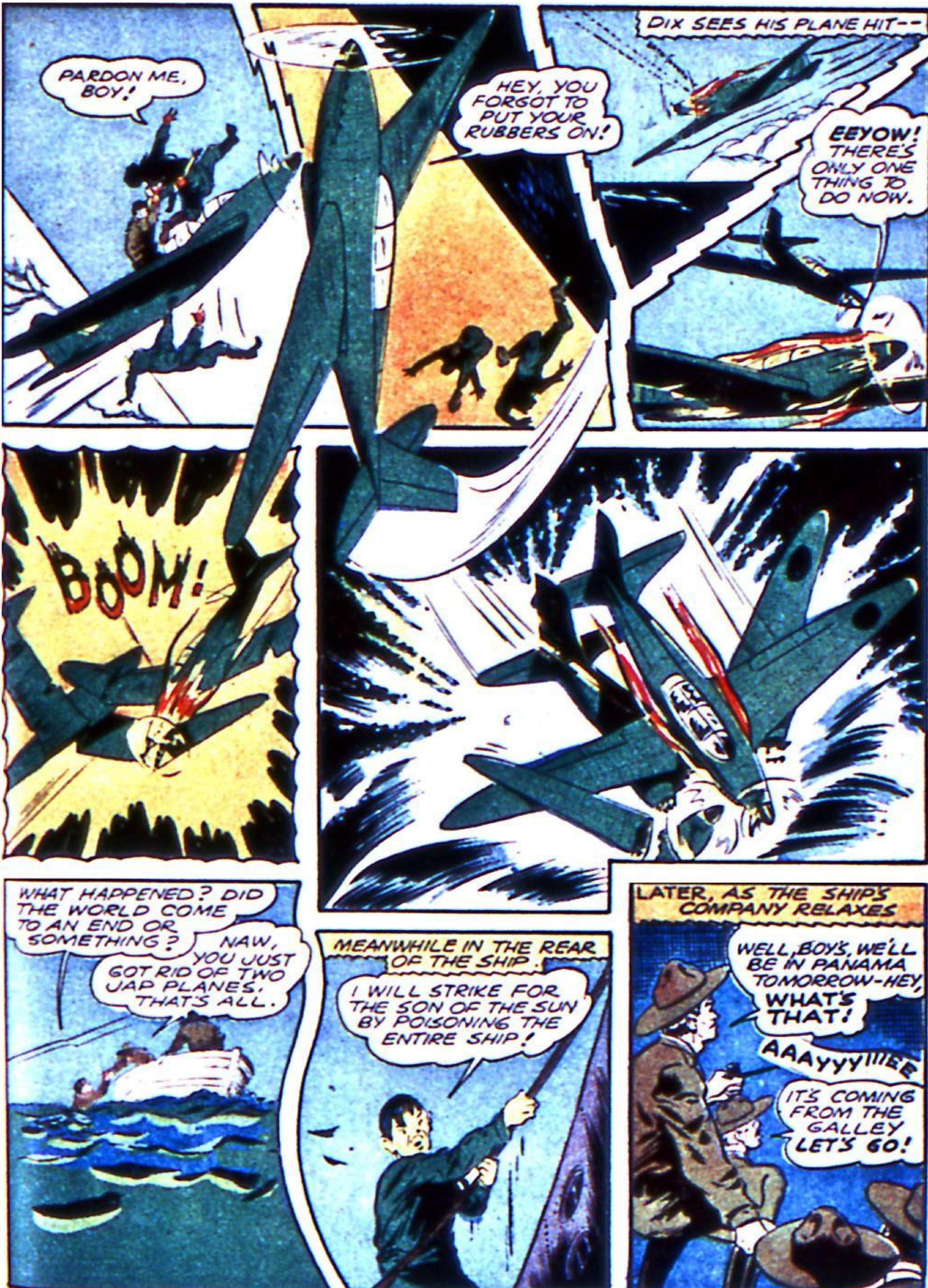
Sergeant DIX

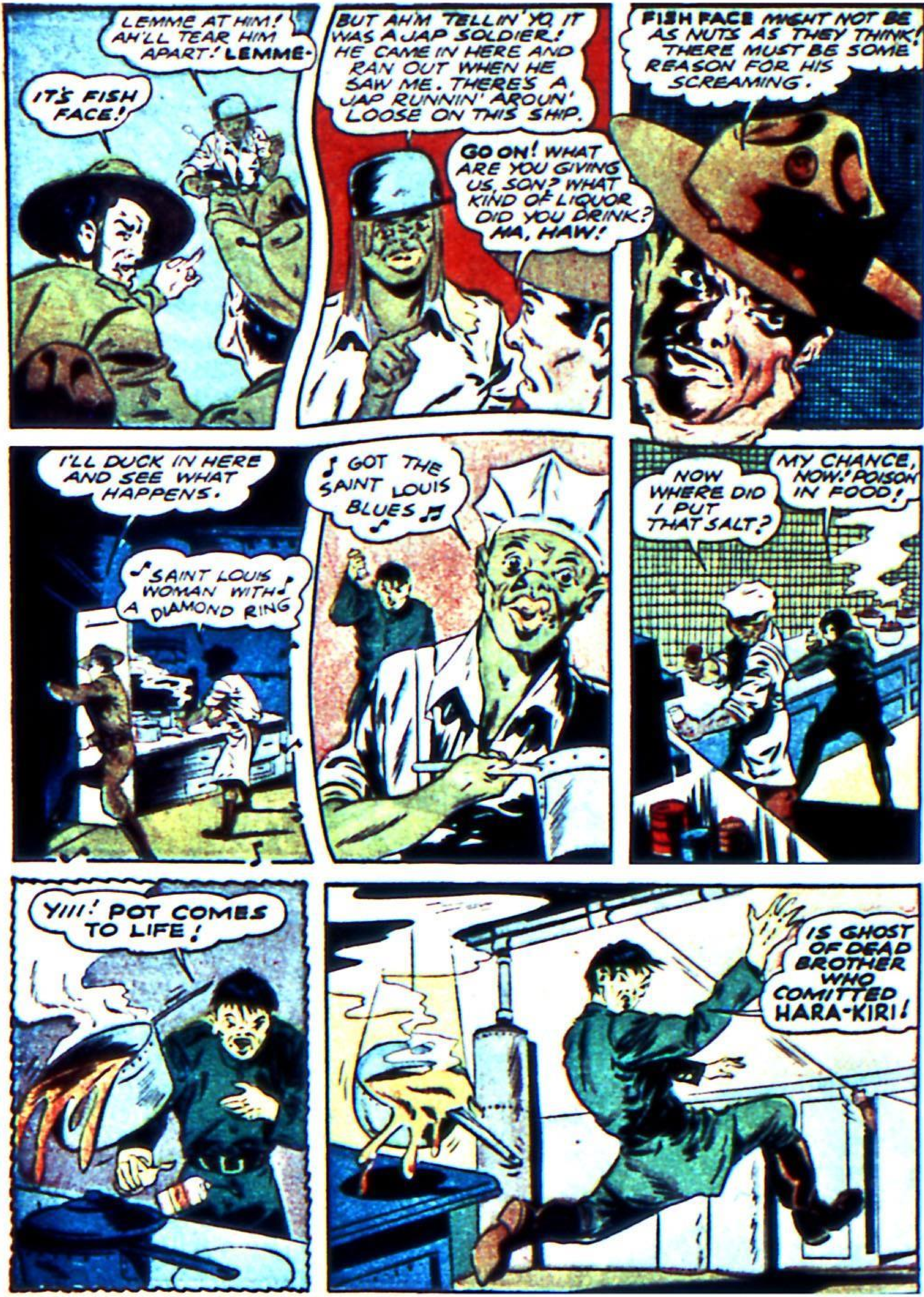

SERGEANT DIX'S FURLOUGH IS ENDED BY THE SUDDEN DECLARATION OF WAR ON JAPAN. THE CORPORAL AND HIS FRIEND, FISH FACE FRIDAY, LONG FOR ACTION... AND THEY GET IT SOONER THAN THEY EXPECT...
WHAT'S UP, JEFF?
MY FURLOUGH IS CUT SHORT! WE'RE ON OUR WAY TO THE PANAMA CANAL!
GEE, I WISH I WAS GOING WITH YOU, JEFF!
YOU STAY HERE AND KEEP THE HOME FIRES BURNING.

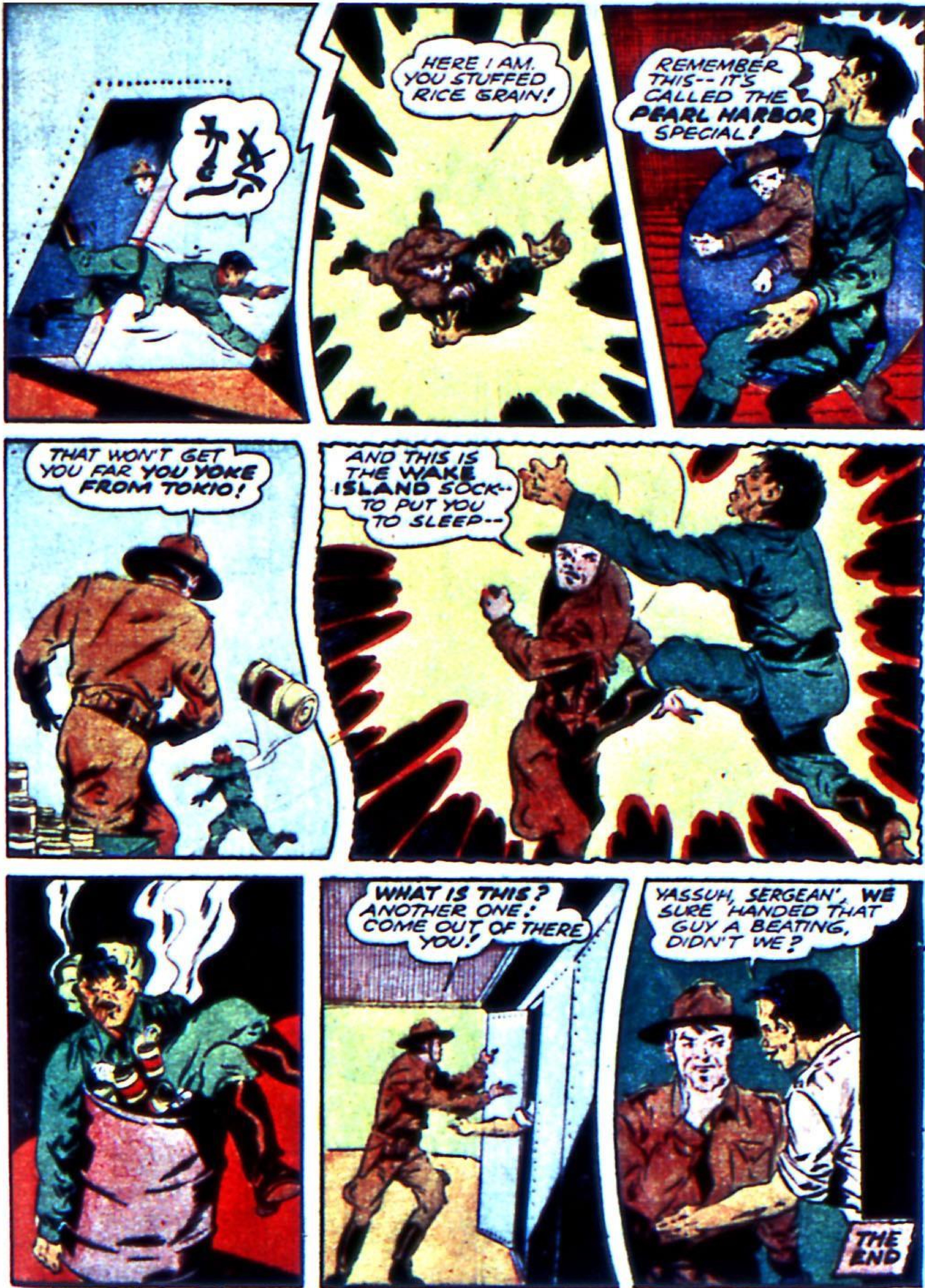

AS A MEMBER OF THE **HOME GUARD**, I'M SUPPOSED TO PREVENT ALL HOME FIRES! SO LONG, CORPORAL!
'BYE, JOE! 'BYE, MAW!
ARRIVING AT HIS COASTAL BASE, **DIX** IS SURPRISED TO MEET...
WHY, **FISH FACE FRIDAY**, YOU OLD SON OF A SEA COOK!
BOY, AH'M GLAD T' SEE YO', **SERGEAN' DIX!** I WANTA TALK TO YO ALL ABOUT THIS WAR BIZNESS
THIS WAR AM GONNA BE OVER QUICKER THAN A JOE LOUIS FIGHT! AH'M GONNA TAKE CARE OF IT, PUSSONALLY!
WHAT CAN YOU DO? YOU'RE ONLY A COOK!
AH MAY BE ONLY A COOK, BUT AH CAN MAKE IT PLENTY HOT FOR THEM YAPPY JAPS! AH GOT A PLAN!
JUST MAKE SURE YOUR PLAN DOESN'T GET YOU INTO A JAM!
BOY! AM I BORED! I WISH WE WERE DOWN IN PANAMA, I'D LIKE TO SEE SOME ACTION! HEY...
♪ TA-DA-TA TA-DA-TA ♫
THERE'S THE CALL, BOYS! ON DECK!
WHAT THE--!
FISH FACE!
YASSUH, CO'PRAL?
WHAT ARE YOU WEARING THAT ANTIQUE CIVIL WAR UNIFORM FOR?
THAT'S PART OF MY PLAN, YO SEE.


AH'M GONNA JOIN THE JAPANESE ARMY!
GET HIM, BOYS! HE'S GONNA JOIN THE ENEMY!
OKAY, BOYS. PILE OFF!
AW, GIMME A CHANCE FELLAHS! AH KIN EXPLAIN EVVYTHING!
WHAT'S THE BIG IDEA, FISH FACE? YOU WANT TO GET SHOT FOR TREASON?
AH DIDN'T KNOW AH WAS GONNA GET SHOT, I JUST WANTED TO JOIN THE JAPANESE ARMY BECAUSE ...
MAH COOKIN' KIN GET RID OF MORE YOKELS FROM YOKOHAMA THAN A MACHINE GUN NEST!
OHHHHH...
JAPANESE PLANES! JAPANESE PLANES! ON THE HORIZON!
WELL, IT LOOKS LIKE I'M GOING TO SEE ACTION SOONER THAN YOU EXPECTED, FISH FACE!
YASSUH! UH-- MAYBE I OUGHTA GO BACK TO THE GALLEY, MEN'S GOT TO EAT.


FISH FACE! FISH FACE!
FISH FACE! SPEAK TO ME! FISH FACE, SAY SOMETHING! YOU'RE NOT-- YOU CAN'T BE---
YOU YELLOW BELLIED COWARDS! I'LL GET YOU IF IT'S THE LAST THING I DO! NO SLAP HAPPY JAP CAN KILL MY FRIENDS AND GET AWAY WITH IT!
WE'LL HAVE TO ABANDON THE SHIP, COLONEL. ANOTHER HIT AND WE'LL NEVER GET OFF.
CAPTAIN, LOOK!
I'LL GIVE THEM THE FIGHT THEY WANT!
COME TO PAPA, BABY!
GOTCHA!
♪ I GO TO ♪ YOUR ♪ HEAD!
OWWW!

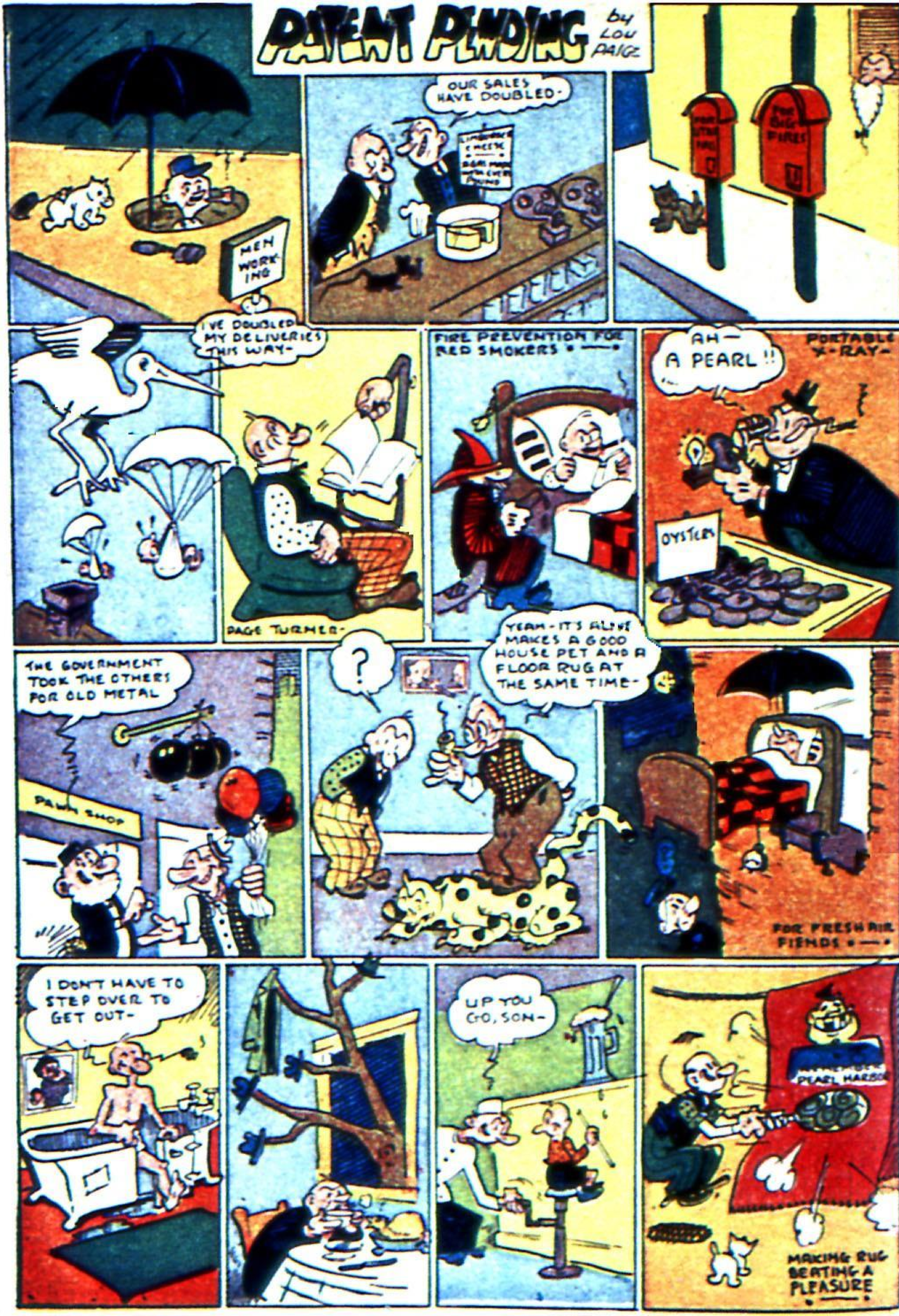

PARDON ME, BOY!
HEY, YOU FORGOT TO PUT YOUR RUBBERS ON!
DIX SEES HIS PLANE HIT--
EEYOW! THERE'S ONLY ONE THING TO DO NOW.
BOOM!
WHAT HAPPENED? DID THE WORLD COME TO AN END OR SOMETHING?
NAW, YOU JUST GOT RID OF TWO JAP PLANES, THAT'S ALL.
MEANWHILE IN THE REAR OF THE SHIP.
I WILL STRIKE FOR THE SON OF THE SUN BY POISONING THE ENTIRE SHIP!
LATER, AS THE SHIP'S COMPANY RELAXES
WELL, BOYS, WE'LL BE IN PANAMA TOMORROW-HEY, WHAT'S THAT!
AAAyyyIIIEE
IT'S COMING FROM THE GALLEY LET'S GO!

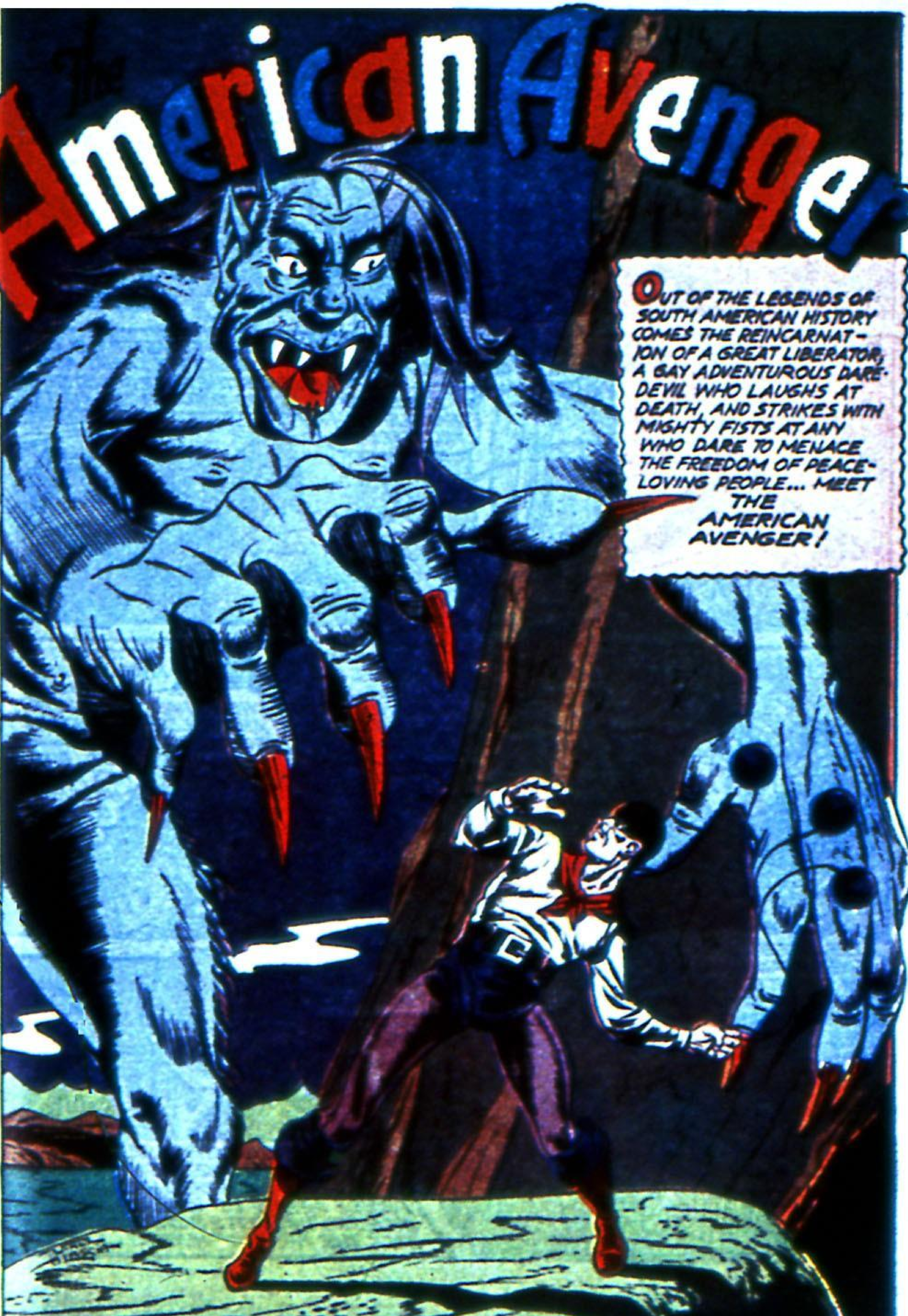

LEMME AT HIM! AH'LL TEAR HIM APART! LEMME-
IT'S FISH FACE!
BUT AH'M TELLIN' YO, IT WAS A JAP SOLDIER! HE CAME IN HERE AND RAN OUT WHEN HE SAW ME. THERE'S A JAP RUNNIN' AROUN' LOOSE ON THIS SHIP.
GO ON! WHAT ARE YOU GIVING US, SON? WHAT KIND OF LIQUOR DID YOU DRINK? HA, HAW!
FISH FACE MIGHT NOT BE AS NUTS AS THEY THINK! THERE MUST BE SOME REASON FOR HIS SCREAMING.
I'LL DUCK IN HERE AND SEE WHAT HAPPENS.
♪ SAINT LOUIS WOMAN WITH ♪ A DIAMOND RING
♪ GOT THE SAINT LOUIS BLUES ♪ ♫
NOW WHERE DID I PUT THAT SALT?
MY CHANCE, NOW! POISON IN FOOD!
YIII! POT COMES TO LIFE!
IS GHOST OF DEAD BROTHER WHO COMITTED HARA-KIRI!

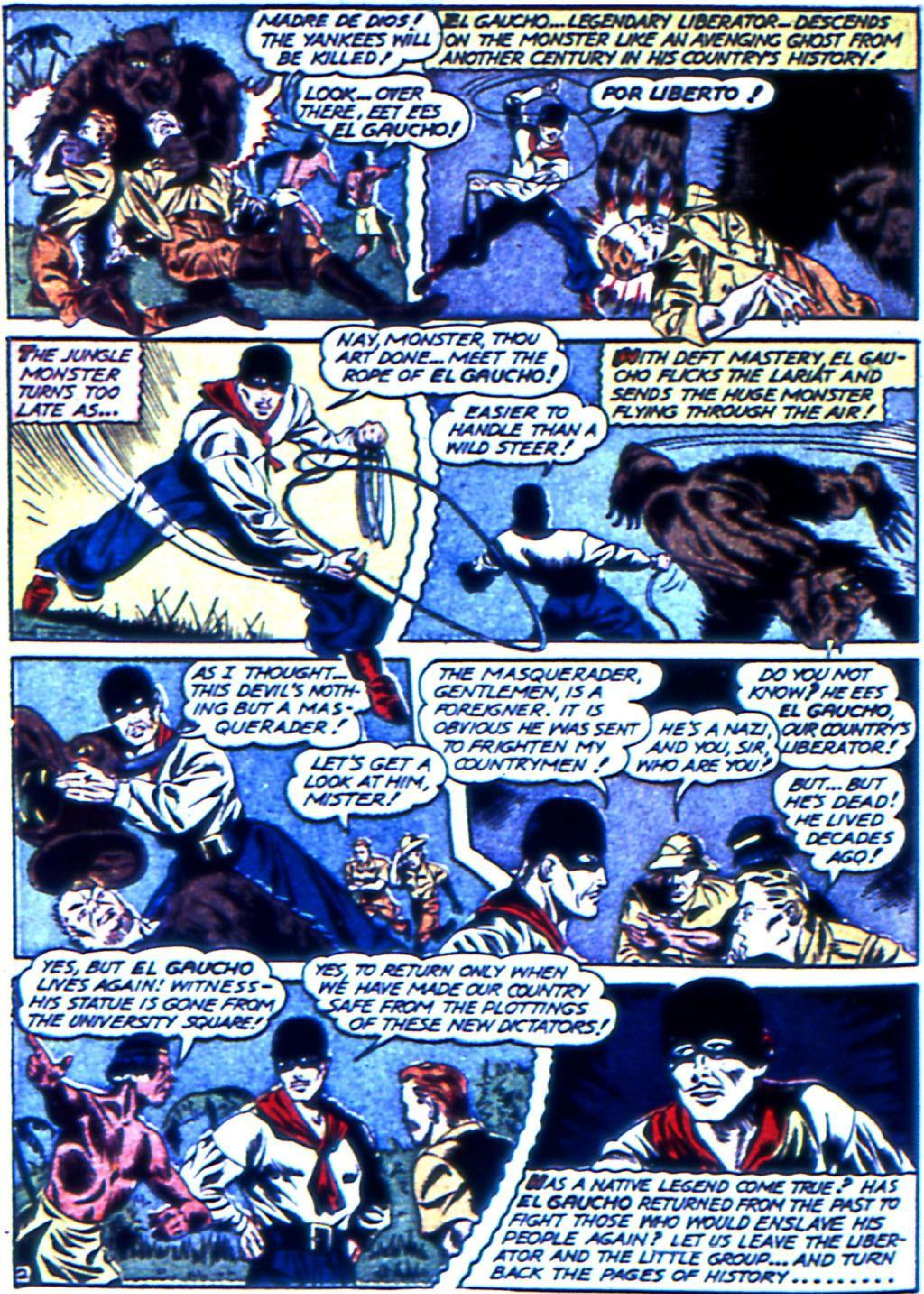

HERE I AM. YOU STUFFED RICE GRAIN!
REMEMBER THIS-- IT'S CALLED THE PEARL HARBOR SPECIAL!
THAT WON'T GET YOU FAR YOU YOKE FROM TOKIO!
AND THIS IS THE WAKE ISLAND SOCK-- TO PUT YOU TO SLEEP--
WHAT IS THIS? ANOTHER ONE! COME OUT OF THERE YOU!
YASSUH, SERGEAN', WE SURE HANDED THAT GUY A BEATING, DIDN'T WE?
THE END

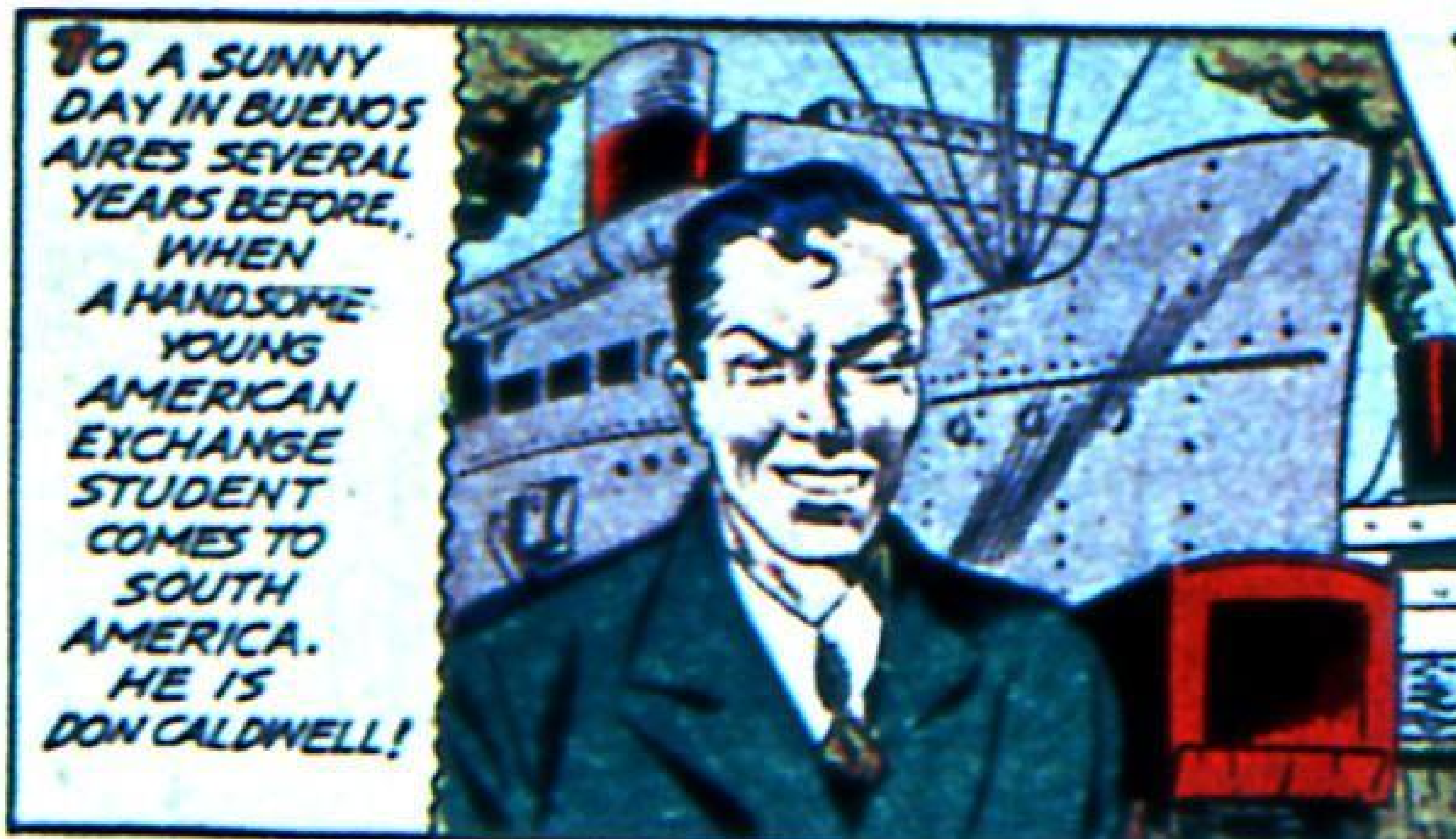
PATENT PENDING

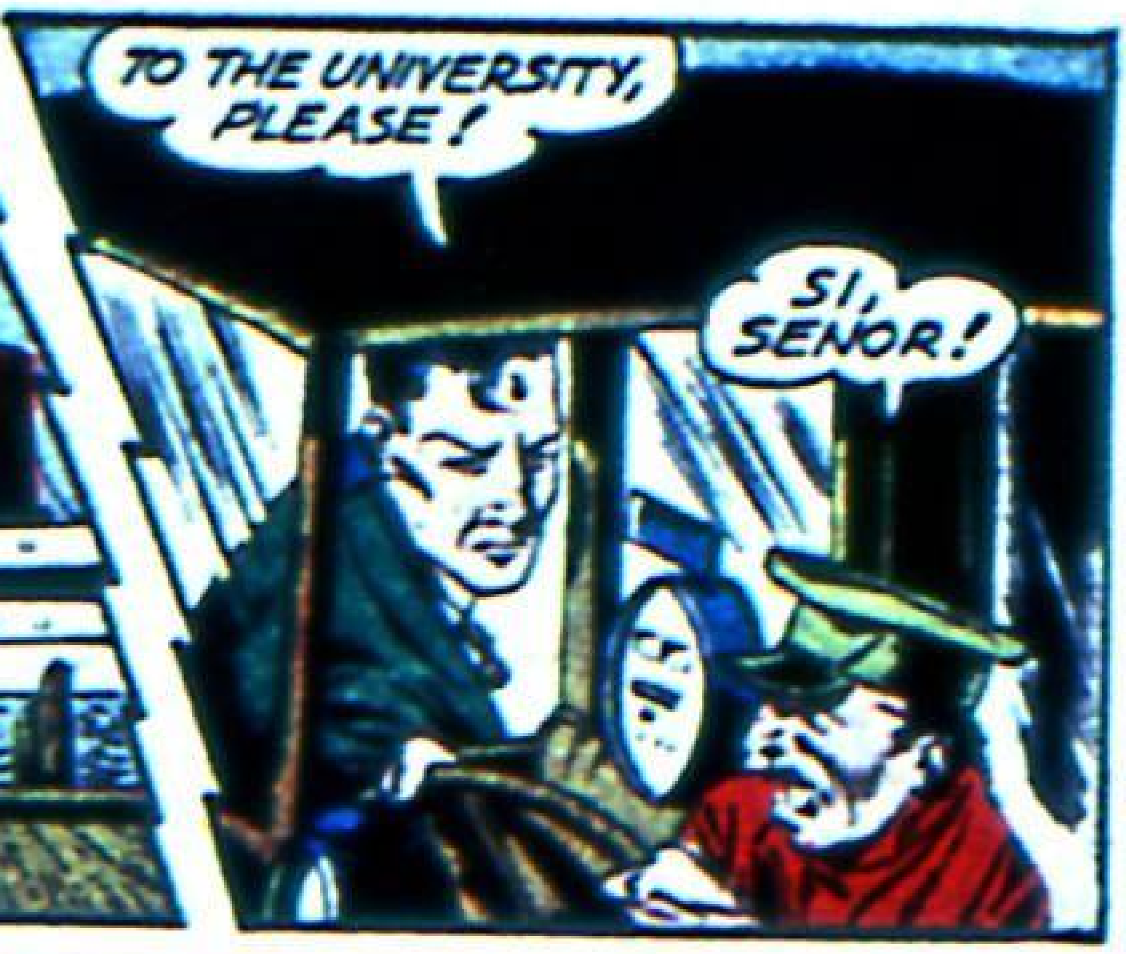
by LOU PAIGE

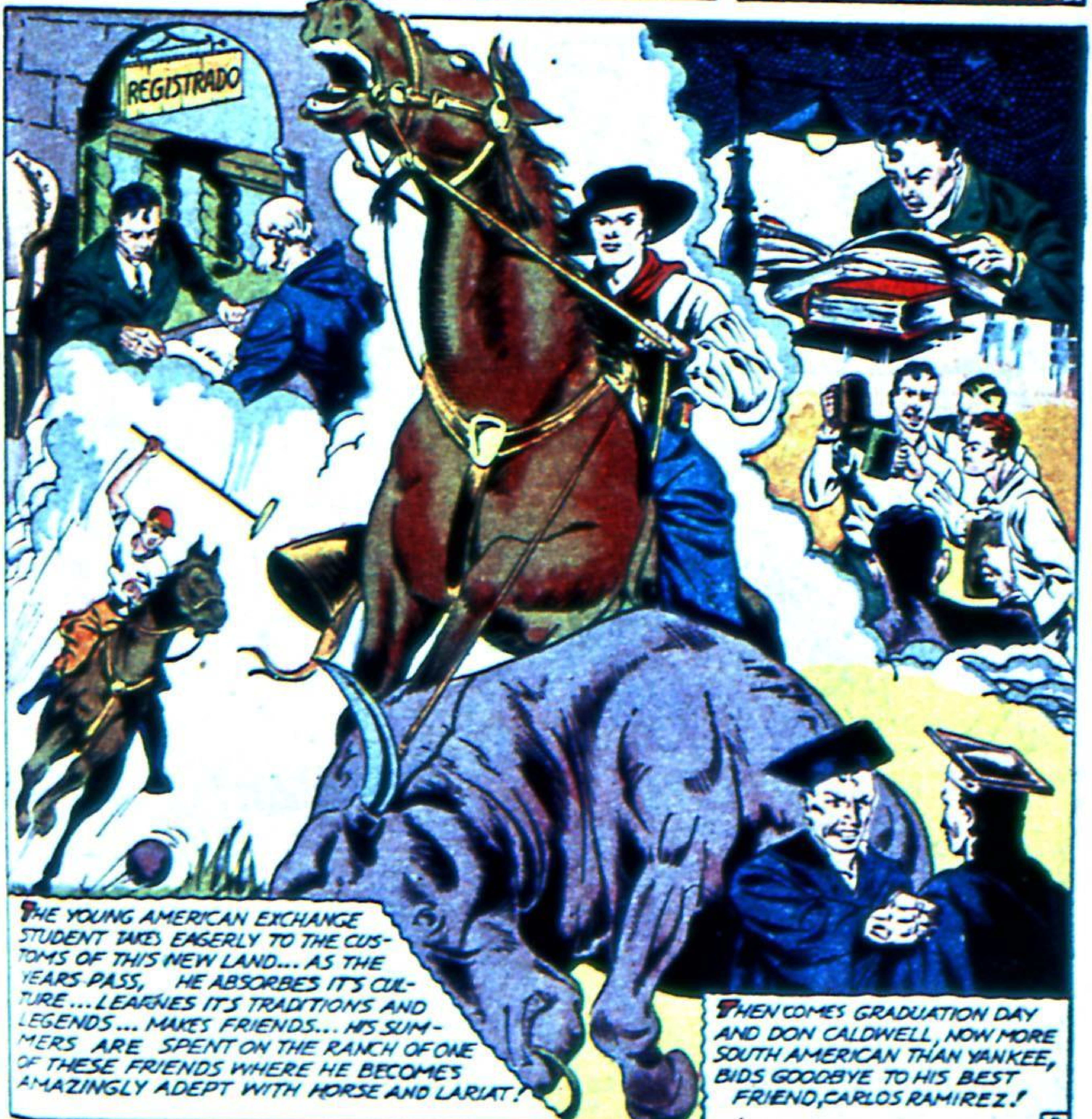

MEN WORKING
OUR SALES HAVE DOUBLED-
FOR BIG FIRES
I'VE DOUBLED MY DELIVERIES THIS WAY-
PAGE TURNER-
FIRE PREVENTION FOR BED SMOKERS •—•
AH— A PEARL!!
PORTABLE X-RAY-
OYSTERS
THE GOVERNMENT TOOK THE OTHERS FOR OLD METAL
PAWN SHOP
?
YEAH - IT'S ALIVE MAKES A GOOD HOUSE PET AND A FLOOR RUG AT THE SAME TIME-
FOR FRESH AIR FIENDS •—•
I DON'T HAVE TO STEP OVER TO GET OUT-
UP YOU GO, SON-
PEARL HARBOR
MAKING RUG BEATING A PLEASURE
•

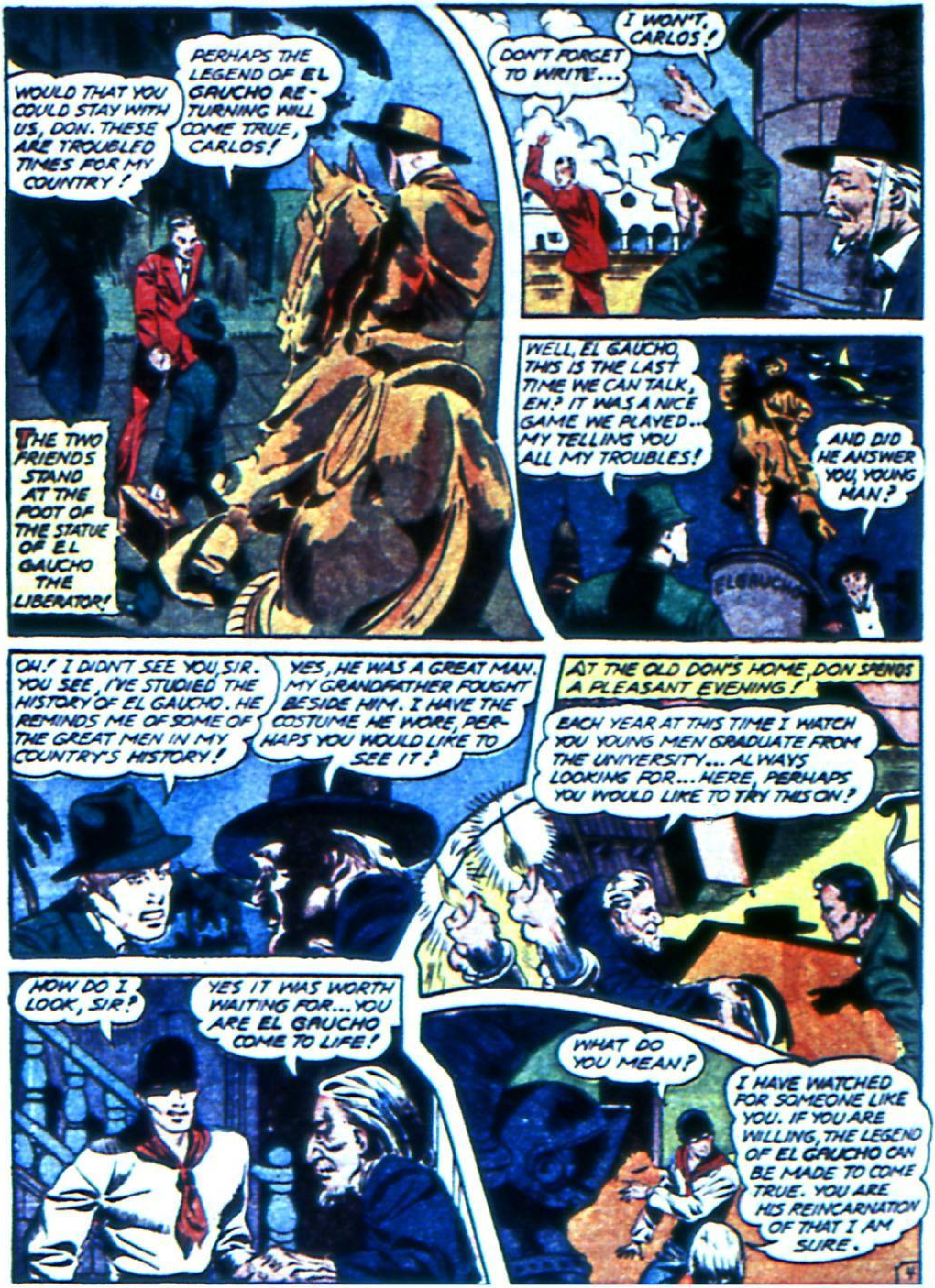

The American Avenger
OUT OF THE LEGENDS OF SOUTH AMERICAN HISTORY COMES THE REINCARNATION OF A GREAT LIBERATOR, A GAY ADVENTUROUS DARE-DEVIL WHO LAUGHS AT DEATH, AND STRIKES WITH MIGHTY FISTS AT ANY WHO DARE TO MENACE THE FREEDOM OF PEACE-LOVING PEOPLE... MEET THE AMERICAN AVENGER!

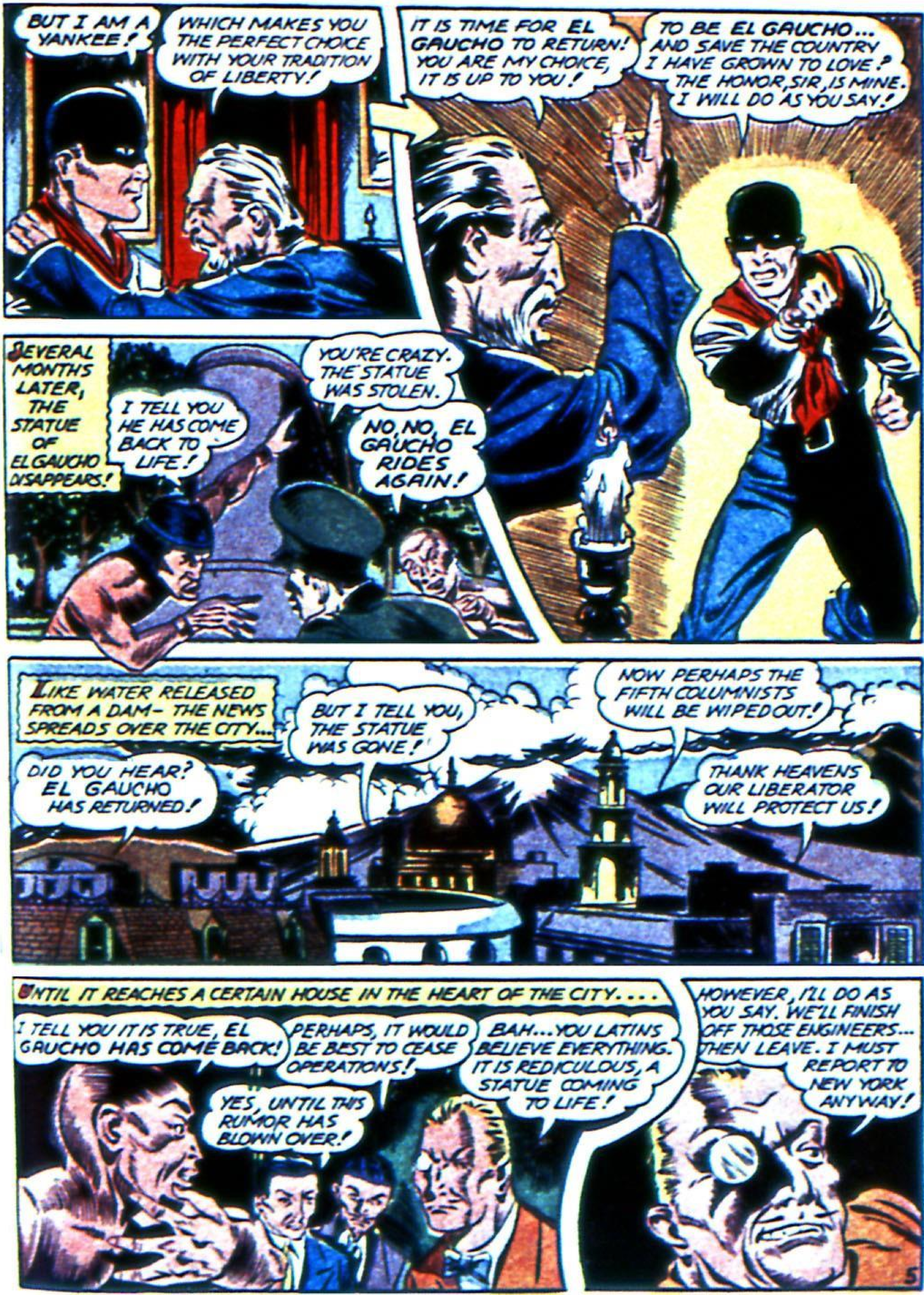

MADRE DE DIOS! THE YANKEES WILL BE KILLED!
LOOK... OVER THERE, EET EES EL GAUCHO!
EL GAUCHO... LEGENDARY LIBERATOR... DESCENDS ON THE MONSTER LIKE AN AVENGING GHOST FROM ANOTHER CENTURY IN HIS COUNTRY'S HISTORY!
POR LIBERTO!
THE JUNGLE MONSTER TURNS TOO LATE AS...
NAY, MONSTER, THOU ART DONE... MEET THE ROPE OF EL GAUCHO!
WITH DEFT MASTERY, EL GAUCHO FLICKS THE LARIAT AND SENDS THE HUGE MONSTER FLYING THROUGH THE AIR!
EASIER TO HANDLE THAN A WILD STEER!
AS I THOUGHT... THIS DEVIL'S NOTHING BUT A MASQUERADER!
LET'S GET A LOOK AT HIM, MISTER!
THE MASQUERADER, GENTLEMEN, IS A FOREIGNER. IT IS OBVIOUS HE WAS SENT TO FRIGHTEN MY COUNTRYMEN!
HE'S A NAZI, AND YOU, SIR, WHO ARE YOU?
DO YOU NOT KNOW? HE EES EL GAUCHO, OUR COUNTRY'S LIBERATOR!
BUT... BUT HE'S DEAD! HE LIVED DECADES AGO!
YES, BUT EL GAUCHO LIVES AGAIN! WITNESS— HIS STATUE IS GONE FROM THE UNIVERSITY SQUARE!
YES, TO RETURN ONLY WHEN WE HAVE MADE OUR COUNTRY SAFE FROM THE PLOTTINGS OF THESE NEW DICTATORS!
HAS A NATIVE LEGEND COME TRUE? HAS EL GAUCHO RETURNED FROM THE PAST TO FIGHT THOSE WHO WOULD ENSLAVE HIS PEOPLE AGAIN? LET US LEAVE THE LIBERATOR AND THE LITTLE GROUP... AND TURN BACK THE PAGES OF HISTORY........

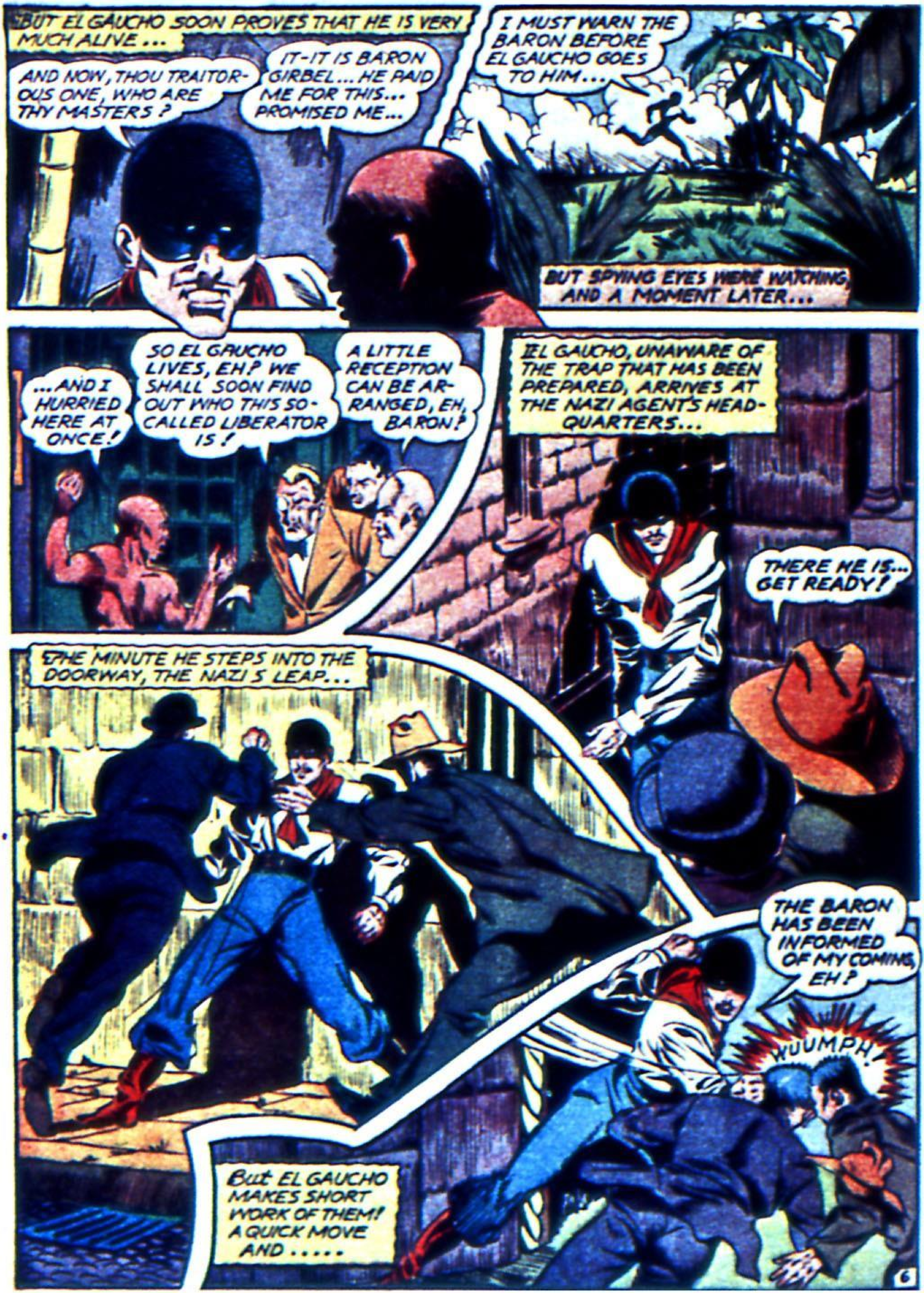

TO A SUNNY DAY IN BUENOS AIRES SEVERAL YEARS BEFORE, WHEN A HANDSOME YOUNG AMERICAN EXCHANGE STUDENT COMES TO SOUTH AMERICA. HE IS DON CALDWELL!

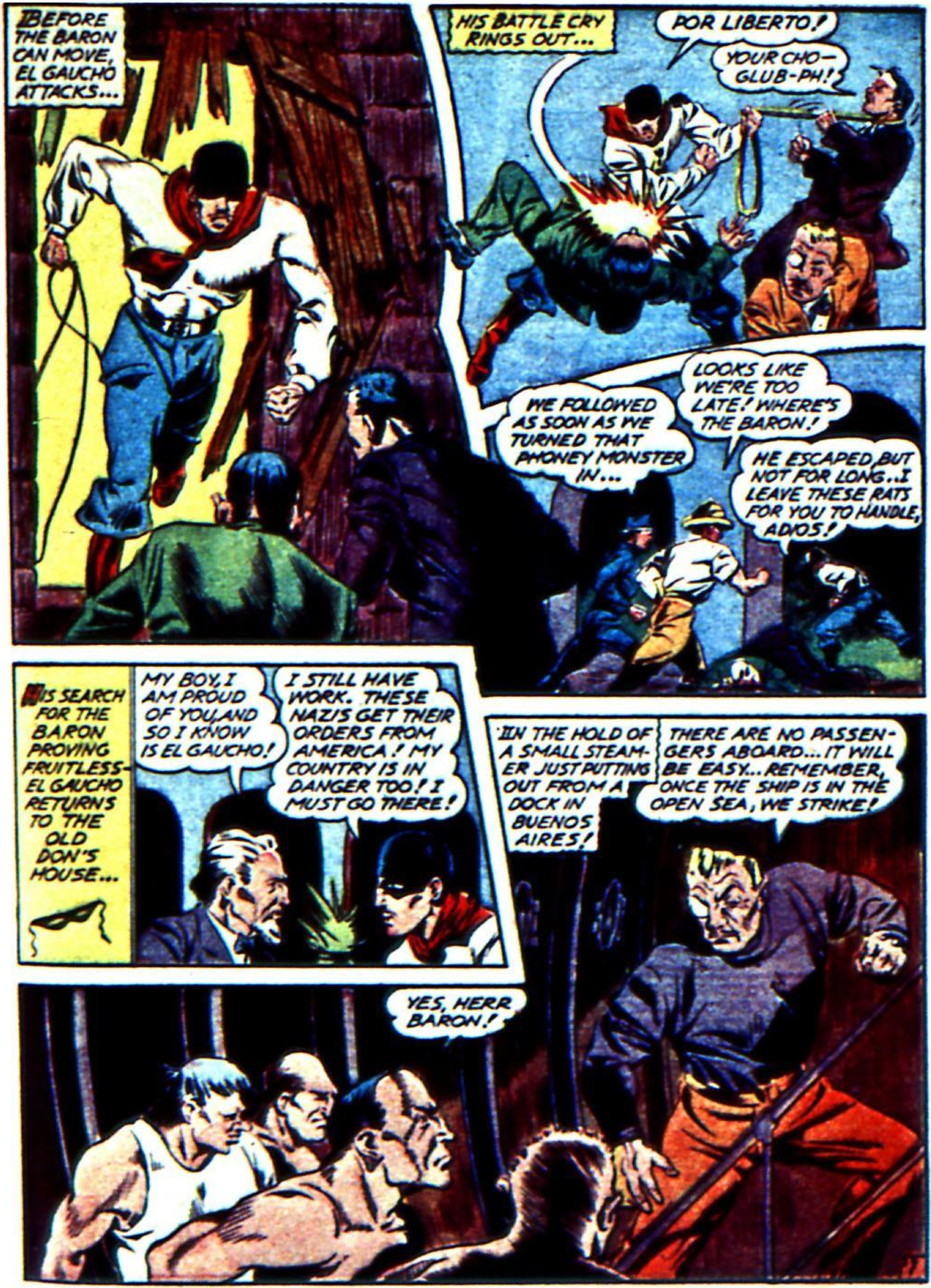

TO THE UNIVERSITY, PLEASE!
SI, SENOR!

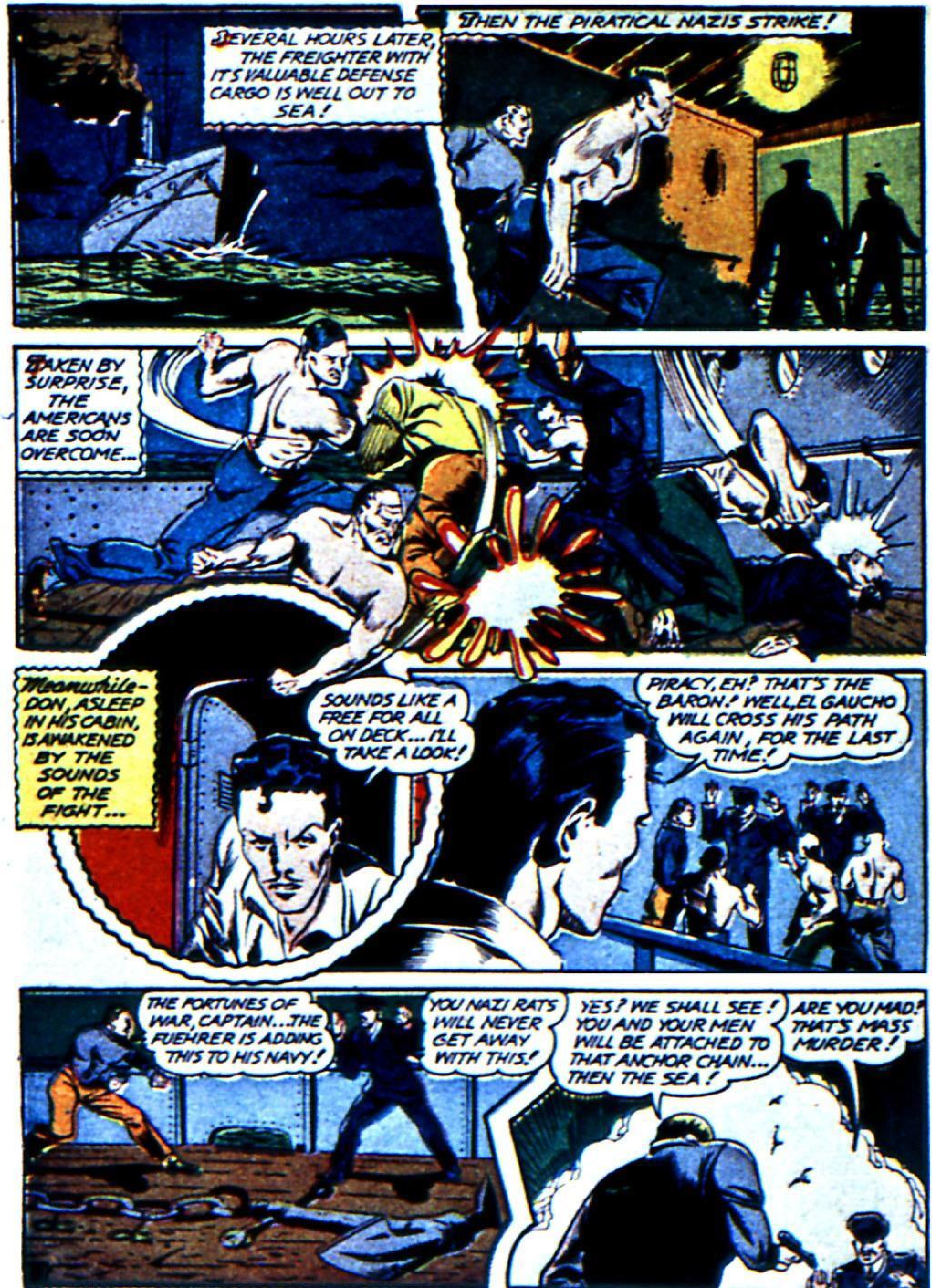

REGISTRADO
THE YOUNG AMERICAN EXCHANGE STUDENT TAKES EAGERLY TO THE CUSTOMS OF THIS NEW LAND... AS THE YEARS PASS, HE ABSORBES IT'S CULTURE... LEARNES IT'S TRADITIONS AND LEGENDS... MAKES FRIENDS... HIS SUMMERS ARE SPENT ON THE RANCH OF ONE OF THESE FRIENDS WHERE HE BECOMES AMAZINGLY ADEPT WITH HORSE AND LARIAT!
THEN COMES GRADUATION DAY AND DON CALDWELL, NOW MORE SOUTH AMERICAN THAN YANKEE, BIDS GOODBYE TO HIS BEST FRIEND, CARLOS RAMIREZ!

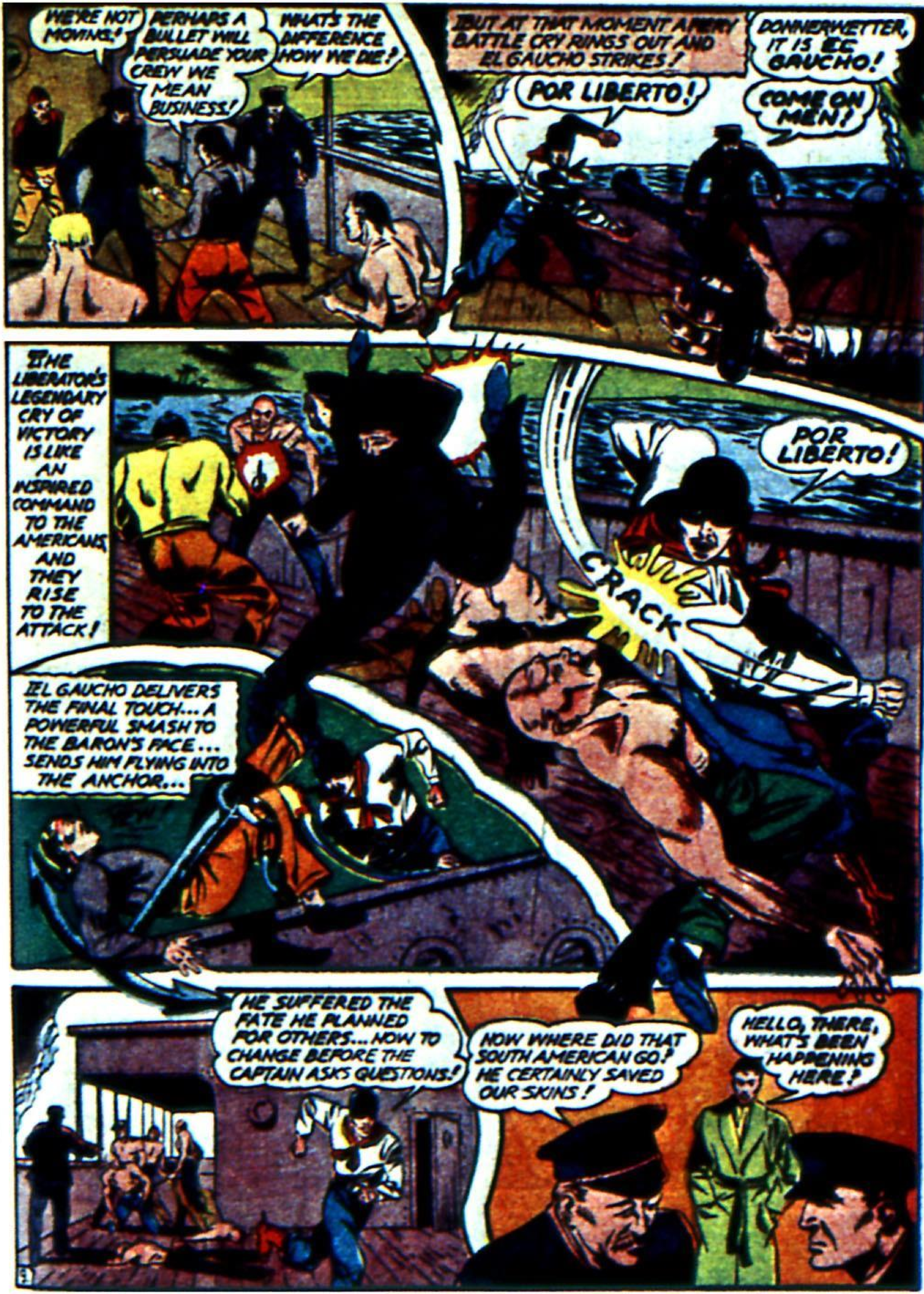

WOULD THAT YOU COULD STAY WITH US, DON. THESE ARE TROUBLED TIMES FOR MY COUNTRY!
PERHAPS THE LEGEND OF EL GAUCHO RETURNING WILL COME TRUE, CARLOS!
THE TWO FRIENDS STAND AT THE FOOT OF THE STATUE OF EL GAUCHO THE LIBERATOR!
DON'T FORGET TO WRITE...
I WON'T, CARLOS!
WELL, EL GAUCHO, THIS IS THE LAST TIME WE CAN TALK, EH? IT WAS A NICE GAME WE PLAYED... MY TELLING YOU ALL MY TROUBLES!
AND DID HE ANSWER YOU, YOUNG MAN?
EL GAUCHO
OH! I DIDN'T SEE YOU, SIR. YOU SEE, I'VE STUDIED THE HISTORY OF EL GAUCHO. HE REMINDS ME OF SOME OF THE GREAT MEN IN MY COUNTRY'S HISTORY!
YES, HE WAS A GREAT MAN. MY GRANDFATHER FOUGHT BESIDE HIM. I HAVE THE COSTUME HE WORE, PERHAPS YOU WOULD LIKE TO SEE IT?
AT THE OLD DON'S HOME, DON SPENDS A PLEASANT EVENING!
EACH YEAR AT THIS TIME I WATCH YOU YOUNG MEN GRADUATE FROM THE UNIVERSITY... ALWAYS LOOKING FOR... HERE, PERHAPS YOU WOULD LIKE TO TRY THIS ON?
HOW DO I LOOK, SIR?
YES IT WAS WORTH WAITING FOR... YOU ARE EL GAUCHO COME TO LIFE!
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
I HAVE WATCHED FOR SOMEONE LIKE YOU. IF YOU ARE WILLING, THE LEGEND OF EL GAUCHO CAN BE MADE TO COME TRUE. YOU ARE HIS REINCARNATION OF THAT I AM SURE.
4

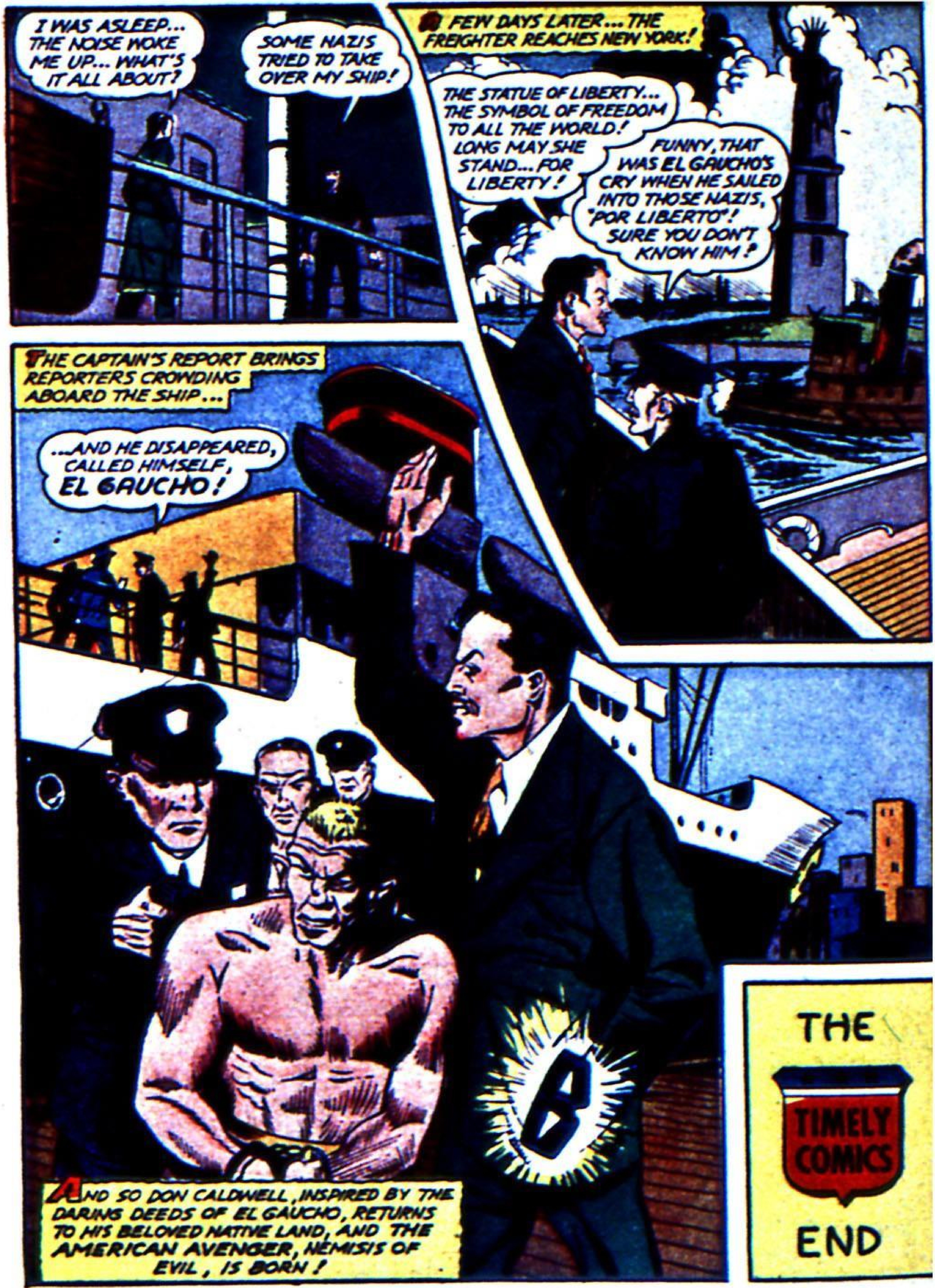

BUT I AM A YANKEE!
WHICH MAKES YOU THE PERFECT CHOICE WITH YOUR TRADITION OF LIBERTY!
IT IS TIME FOR EL GAUCHO TO RETURN! YOU ARE MY CHOICE, IT IS UP TO YOU!
TO BE EL GAUCHO... AND SAVE THE COUNTRY I HAVE GROWN TO LOVE? THE HONOR, SIR, IS MINE. I WILL DO AS YOU SAY!
SEVERAL MONTHS LATER, THE STATUE OF EL GAUCHO DISAPPEARS!
I TELL YOU HE HAS COME BACK TO LIFE!
YOU'RE CRAZY. THE STATUE WAS STOLEN.
NO, NO, EL GAUCHO RIDES AGAIN!
LIKE WATER RELEASED FROM A DAM- THE NEWS SPREADS OVER THE CITY...
DID YOU HEAR? EL GAUCHO HAS RETURNED!
BUT I TELL YOU, THE STATUE WAS GONE!
NOW PERHAPS THE FIFTH COLUMNISTS WILL BE WIPED OUT!
THANK HEAVENS OUR LIBERATOR WILL PROTECT US!
UNTIL IT REACHES A CERTAIN HOUSE IN THE HEART OF THE CITY....
I TELL YOU IT IS TRUE, EL GAUCHO HAS COME BACK!
PERHAPS, IT WOULD BE BEST TO CEASE OPERATIONS!
YES, UNTIL THIS RUMOR HAS BLOWN OVER!
BAH... YOU LATINS BELIEVE EVERYTHING. IT IS REDICULOUS, A STATUE COMING TO LIFE!
HOWEVER, I'LL DO AS YOU SAY. WE'LL FINISH OFF THOSE ENGINEERS... THEN LEAVE. I MUST REPORT TO NEW YORK ANYWAY!


BUT EL GAUCHO SOON PROVES THAT HE IS VERY MUCH ALIVE...
AND NOW, THOU TRAITOROUS ONE, WHO ARE THY MASTERS?
IT-IT IS BARON GIRBEL... HE PAID ME FOR THIS... PROMISED ME...
I MUST WARN THE BARON BEFORE EL GAUCHO GOES TO HIM...
BUT SPYING EYES WERE WATCHING, AND A MOMENT LATER...
...AND I HURRIED HERE AT ONCE!
SO EL GAUCHO LIVES, EH? WE SHALL SOON FIND OUT WHO THIS SO-CALLED LIBERATOR IS!
A LITTLE RECEPTION CAN BE ARRANGED, EH, BARON!
EL GAUCHO, UNAWARE OF THE TRAP THAT HAS BEEN PREPARED, ARRIVES AT THE NAZI AGENT'S HEADQUARTERS...
THERE HE IS... GET READY!
THE MINUTE HE STEPS INTO THE DOORWAY, THE NAZI S LEAP...
THE BARON HAS BEEN INFORMED OF MY COMING, EH?
WUUMPH!
But EL GAUCHO MAKES SHORT WORK OF THEM! A QUICK MOVE AND.....


BEFORE THE BARON CAN MOVE, EL GAUCHO ATTACKS...
HIS BATTLE CRY RINGS OUT...
POR LIBERTO!
YOUR CHO-GLUB-PH!
LOOKS LIKE WE'RE TOO LATE! WHERE'S THE BARON!
WE FOLLOWED AS SOON AS WE TURNED THAT PHONEY MONSTER IN...
HE ESCAPED BUT NOT FOR LONG..I LEAVE THESE RATS FOR YOU TO HANDLE, ADIOS!
HIS SEARCH FOR THE BARON PROVING FRUITLESS-EL GAUCHO RETURNS TO THE OLD DON'S HOUSE...
MY BOY, I AM PROUD OF YOU, AND SO I KNOW IS EL GAUCHO!
I STILL HAVE WORK. THESE NAZIS GET THEIR ORDERS FROM AMERICA! MY COUNTRY IS IN DANGER TOO! I MUST GO THERE!
IN THE HOLD OF A SMALL STEAMER JUST PUTTING OUT FROM A DOCK IN BUENOS AIRES!
THERE ARE NO PASSENGERS ABOARD... IT WILL BE EASY... REMEMBER, ONCE THE SHIP IS IN THE OPEN SEA, WE STRIKE!
YES, HERR BARON!


SEVERAL HOURS LATER, THE FREIGHTER WITH IT'S VALUABLE DEFENSE CARGO IS WELL OUT TO SEA!
THEN THE PIRATICAL NAZIS STRIKE!
TAKEN BY SURPRISE, THE AMERICANS ARE SOON OVERCOME...
Meanwhile- DON, ASLEEP IN HIS CABIN, IS AWAKENED BY THE SOUNDS OF THE FIGHT...
SOUNDS LIKE A FREE FOR ALL ON DECK... I'LL TAKE A LOOK!
PIRACY, EH? THAT'S THE BARON! WELL, EL GAUCHO WILL CROSS HIS PATH AGAIN, FOR THE LAST TIME!
THE FORTUNES OF WAR, CAPTAIN... THE FUEHRER IS ADDING THIS TO HIS NAVY!
YOU NAZI RATS WILL NEVER GET AWAY WITH THIS!
YES? WE SHALL SEE! YOU AND YOUR MEN WILL BE ATTACHED TO THAT ANCHOR CHAIN... THEN THE SEA!
ARE YOU MAD! THAT'S MASS MURDER!


WE'RE NOT MOVING!
PERHAPS A BULLET WILL PERSUADE YOUR CREW WE MEAN BUSINESS!
WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE HOW WE DIE!
BUT AT THAT MOMENT A FIERY BATTLE CRY RINGS OUT AND EL GAUCHO STRIKES!
DONNERWETTER, IT IS EL GAUCHO!
POR LIBERTO!
COME ON MEN!
THE LIBERATOR'S LEGENDARY CRY OF VICTORY IS LIKE AN INSPIRED COMMAND TO THE AMERICANS AND THEY RISE TO THE ATTACK!
POR LIBERTO!
CRACK
EL GAUCHO DELIVERS THE FINAL TOUCH... A POWERFUL SMASH TO THE BARON'S FACE... SENDS HIM FLYING INTO THE ANCHOR...
HE SUFFERED THE FATE HE PLANNED FOR OTHERS... NOW TO CHANGE BEFORE THE CAPTAIN ASKS QUESTIONS!
NOW WHERE DID THAT SOUTH AMERICAN GO? HE CERTAINLY SAVED OUR SKINS!
HELLO, THERE, WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING HERE?


I WAS ASLEEP... THE NOISE WOKE ME UP... WHAT'S IT ALL ABOUT?
SOME NAZIS TRIED TO TAKE OVER MY SHIP!
A FEW DAYS LATER... THE FREIGHTER REACHES NEW YORK!
THE STATUE OF LIBERTY... THE SYMBOL OF FREEDOM TO ALL THE WORLD! LONG MAY SHE STAND... FOR LIBERTY!
FUNNY, THAT WAS EL GAUCHO'S CRY WHEN HE SAILED INTO THOSE NAZIS, "POR LIBERTO"! SURE YOU DON'T KNOW HIM?
THE CAPTAIN'S REPORT BRINGS REPORTERS CROWDING ABOARD THE SHIP...
...AND HE DISAPPEARED, CALLED HIMSELF, EL GAUCHO!
AND SO DON CALDWELL, INSPIRED BY THE DARING DEEDS OF EL GAUCHO, RETURNS TO HIS BELOVED NATIVE LAND, AND THE AMERICAN AVENGER, NEMISIS OF EVIL, IS BORN!
THE
TIMELY COMICS
END

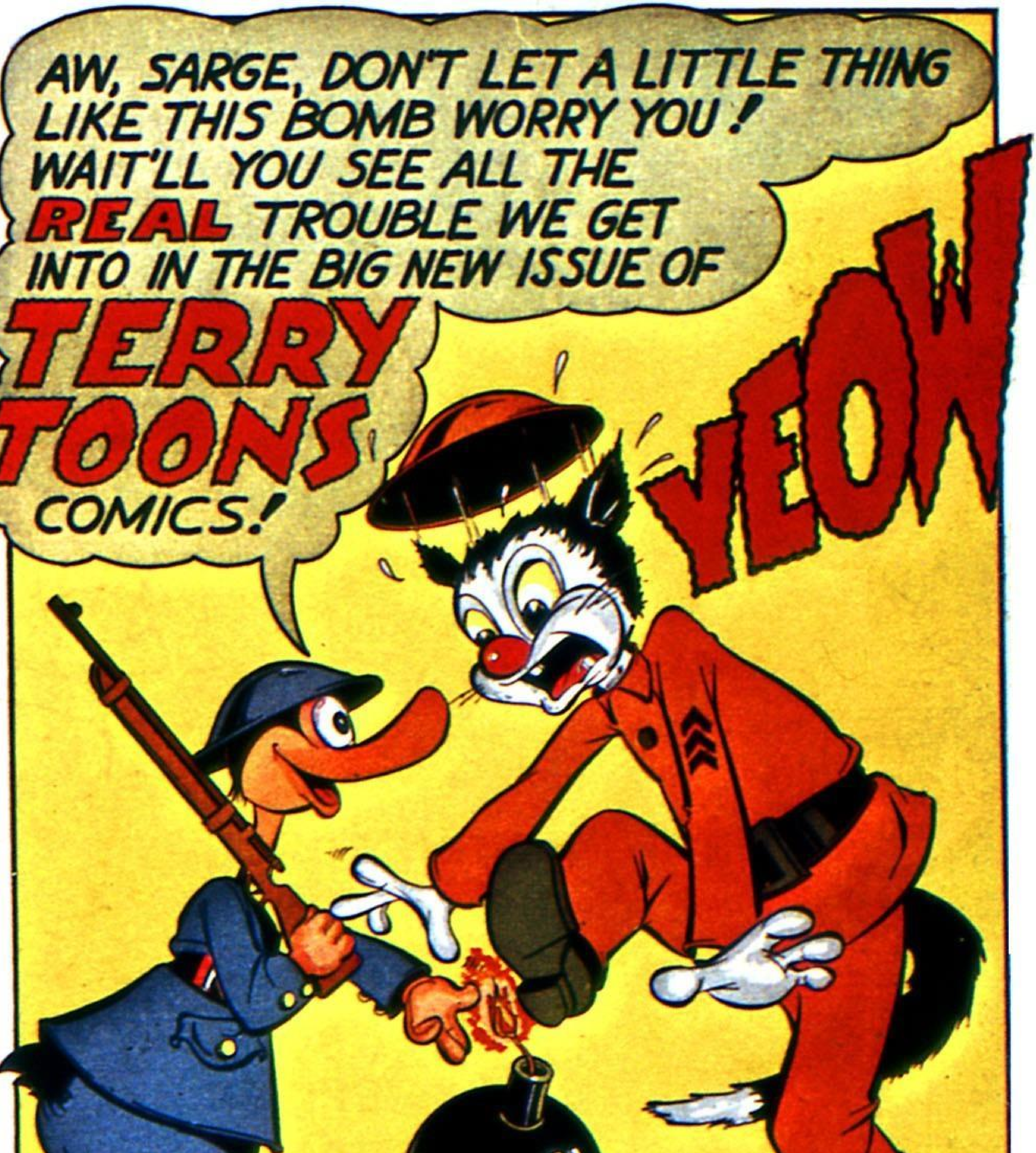
MARVEL MYSTERY COMICS

THRILLS!

TIMELY COMICS

HUMAN TORCH
SUB-MARINER
ANGEL
TERRY VANCE
JIMMY JUPITER
PATRIOT
VISION

Every month


AW, SARGE, DON'T LET A LITTLE THING LIKE THIS BOMB WORRY YOU! WAIT'LL YOU SEE ALL THE REAL TROUBLE WE GET INTO IN THE BIG NEW ISSUE OF TERRY TOONS COMICS!
YEOW
©T.

YOU'VE READ AND ENJOYED
KRAZY KOMICS!
NOW DON'T FAIL TO RUSH TO YOUR
NEWSSTAND JULY 1ST FOR....

TERRY-TOONS COMICS

REG. U.S. PAT. OFF.

brianZo